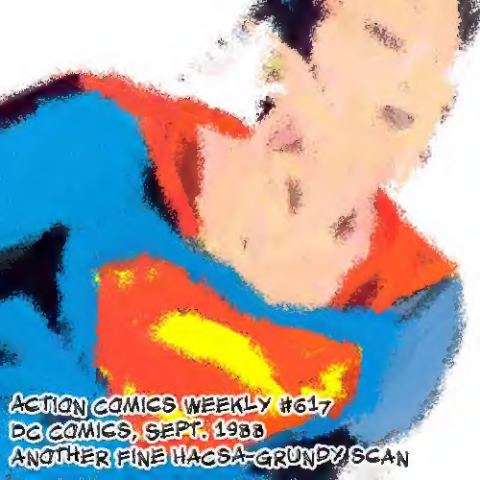




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DC COMICS, SEPT. 1988  
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NO. 617

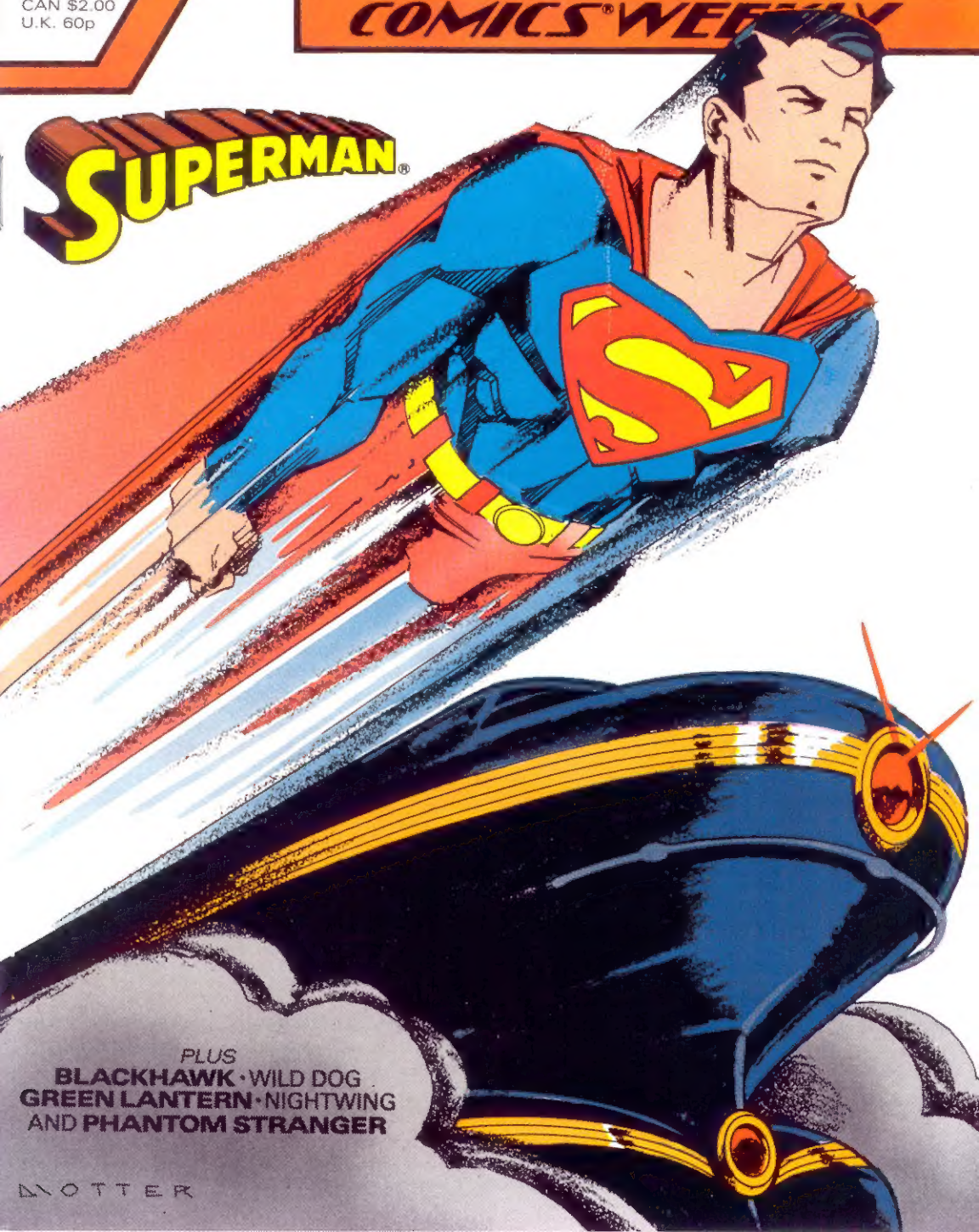
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**ACTION**  
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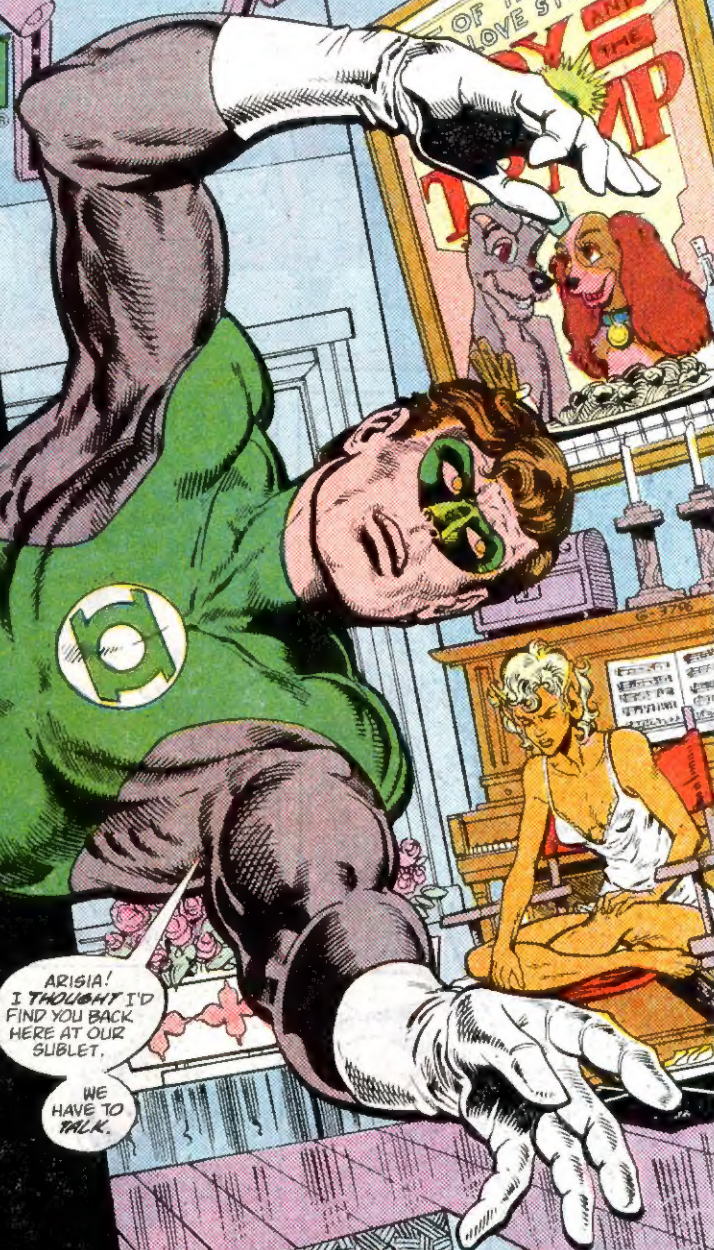


PLUS  
BLACKHAWK • WILD DOG  
GREEN LANTERN • NIGHTWING  
AND PHANTOM STRANGER

NOTTER



# GREEN LANTERN



ARISIA!  
I THOUGHT I'D  
FIND YOU BACK  
HERE AT OUR  
SUBLET.

WE  
HAVE TO  
TALK.

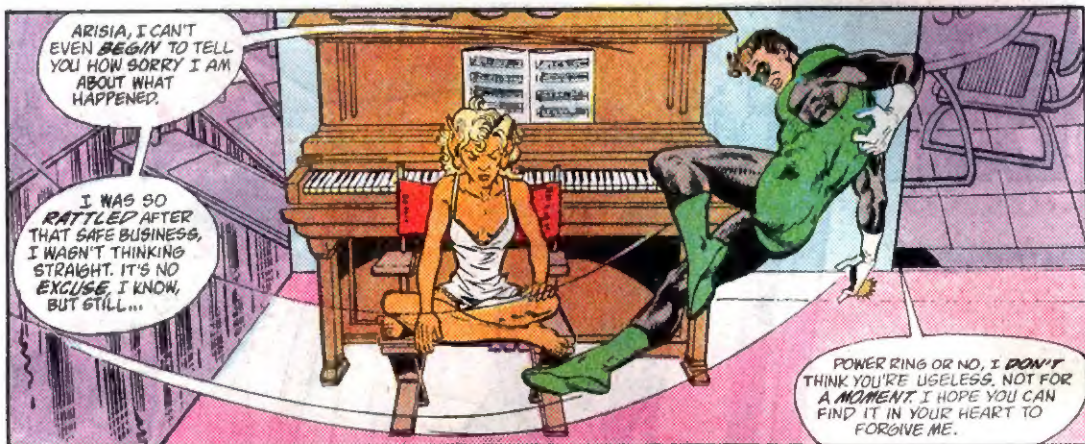
WRITTEN BY PETER DAVID  
PENCILS BY RICHARD HOWELL  
INKED BY ARNE STARR  
COLORED BY ANTHONY TOLLIN  
LETTERED BY HELEN VESIK  
ASSISTANT EDITOR - DAN KASPLER  
EDITOR - DENNIS O'NEIL

## ASSAULT ON A GREEN

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Another Fine McCut-Grundy scan

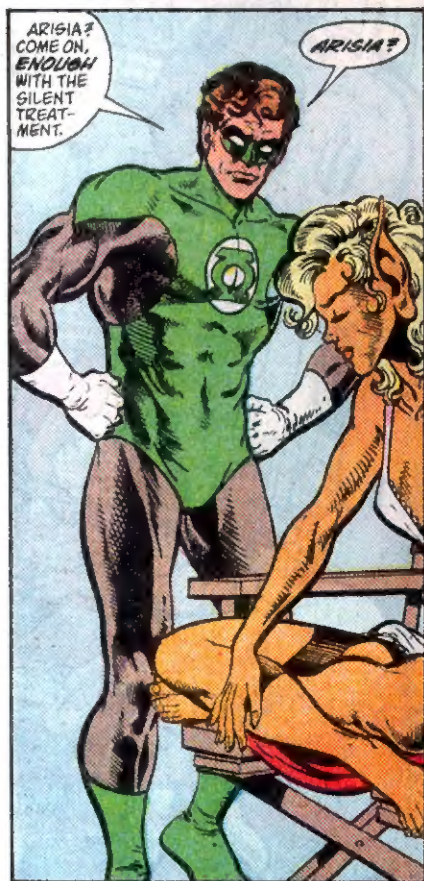




ARISIA, I CAN'T EVEN **BEGIN** TO TELL YOU HOW SORRY I AM ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.

I WAS SO **RATTLED** AFTER THAT SAFE BUSINESS, I WASN'T THINKING STRAIGHT. IT'S NO **EXCUSE**, I KNOW, BUT STILL...

POWER RING OR NO, I **DON'T** THINK YOU'RE USELESS. NOT FOR A **MOMENT**. I HOPE YOU CAN FIND IT IN YOUR HEART TO FORGIVE ME.

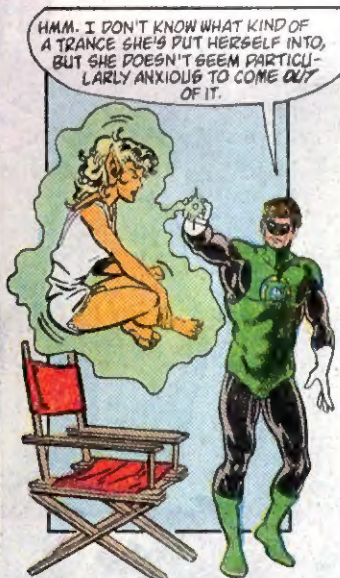


ARISIA? COME ON, **ENOUGH** WITH THE SILENT TREATMENT.

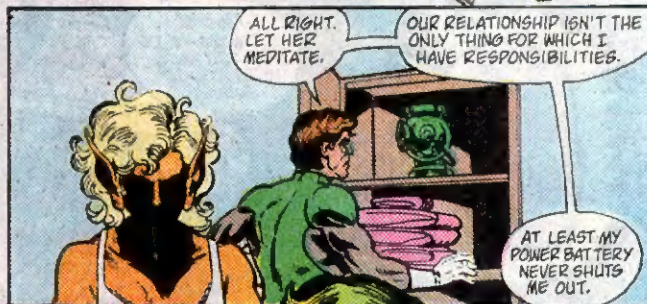
ARISIA?



SNAP



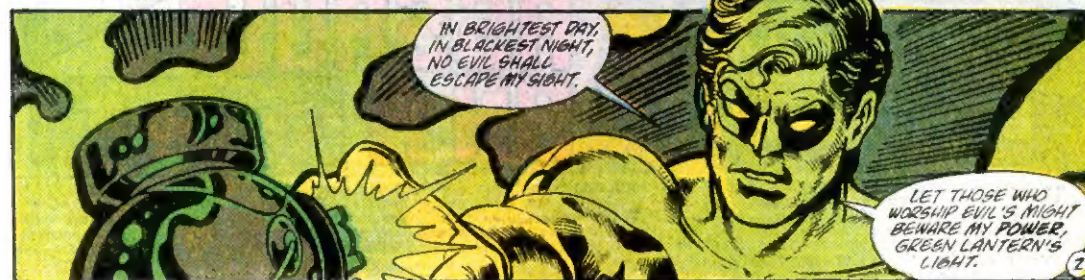
HMM. I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF A TRANCE SHE'S PUT HERSELF INTO, BUT SHE DOESN'T SEEM PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO COME OUT OF IT.



ALL RIGHT. LET HER MEDITATE.

OUR RELATIONSHIP ISN'T THE ONLY THING FOR WHICH I HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES.

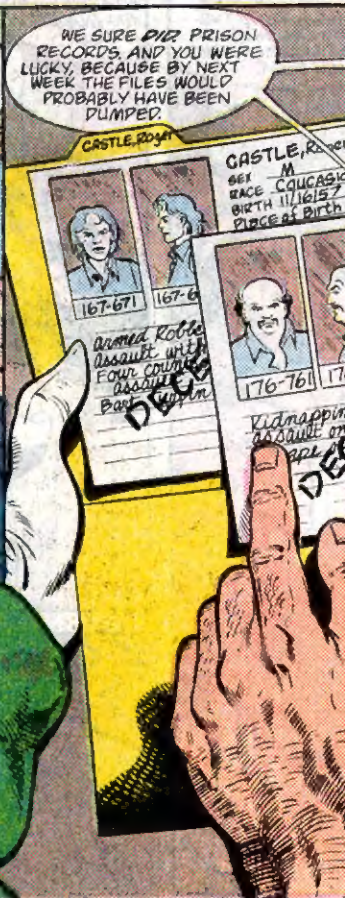
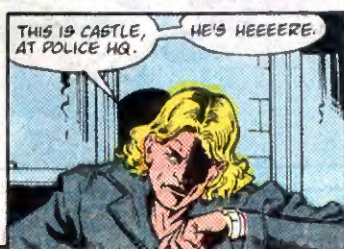
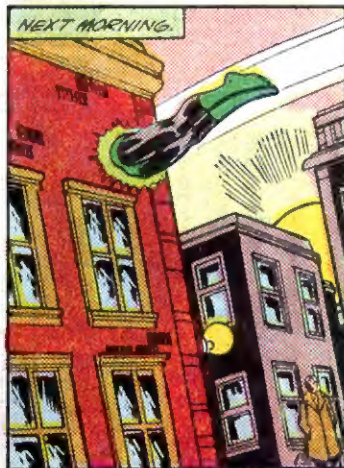
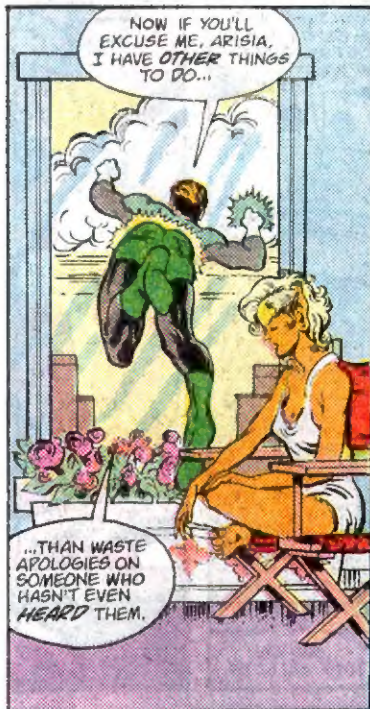
AT LEAST MY POWER BATTERY NEVER SHUTS ME OUT.



IN BRIGHTEST DAY, IN DARKEST NIGHT, NO EVIL SHALL ESCAPE MY SIGHT.

LET THOSE WHO WORSHIP EVIL'S MIGHT BEWARE MY POWER, GREEN LANTERN'S LIGHT.







OF COURSE YOU WAIT UNTIL HE LEAVES THE POLICE STATION, YOU IDIOT. THE LAST THING YOU NEED IS A SMALL ARMY OF POLICEMEN PITCHING IN.

ONCE HE LEAVES, GRABS HIS ATTENTION. USE INCINDERELLA, THIS IS RIGHT UP HER ALLEY. HE HASN'T SEEN HER BEFORE, SO HE WON'T BE EXPECTING ANYTHING.

YOU CAN TRUST ME, BOSS. OL' CASTLE'S ALMOST AS SMART AS YOU.

DROP DEAD.

AND MAKE SURE SHE'S NOT WEARING ONE OF HER DAMNED BALL GOWNS. SHE'S ALWAYS TRIPPING OVER THE THINGS.

SEE YOU. LOVE YOU LOTS.

THE MEN I FOUGHT WERE DEFINITELY NOT DEAD.

WELL, ACCORDING TO THAT REPORT, THEY WERE KILLED IN AN INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT IN A FACTORY OUT IN WISCONSIN, OWNED BY AN OUTFIT CALLED HAWKES INDUSTRIES.

THE C.E.O, MILTON HAWKES DIED ABOUT A YEAR AGO. HIS OLDER DAUGHTER, VERONICA, RUNS THE PLACE NOW, WITH HER SISTER LILLIAN IN SOME MINOR POST.

THEY'RE INTO ALL KINDS OF ELECTRONIC GIMMICKS. REAL CUTTING EDGE OF TECHNOLOGY STUFF.

SO NOW WHAT? YOU QUESTION THEM?

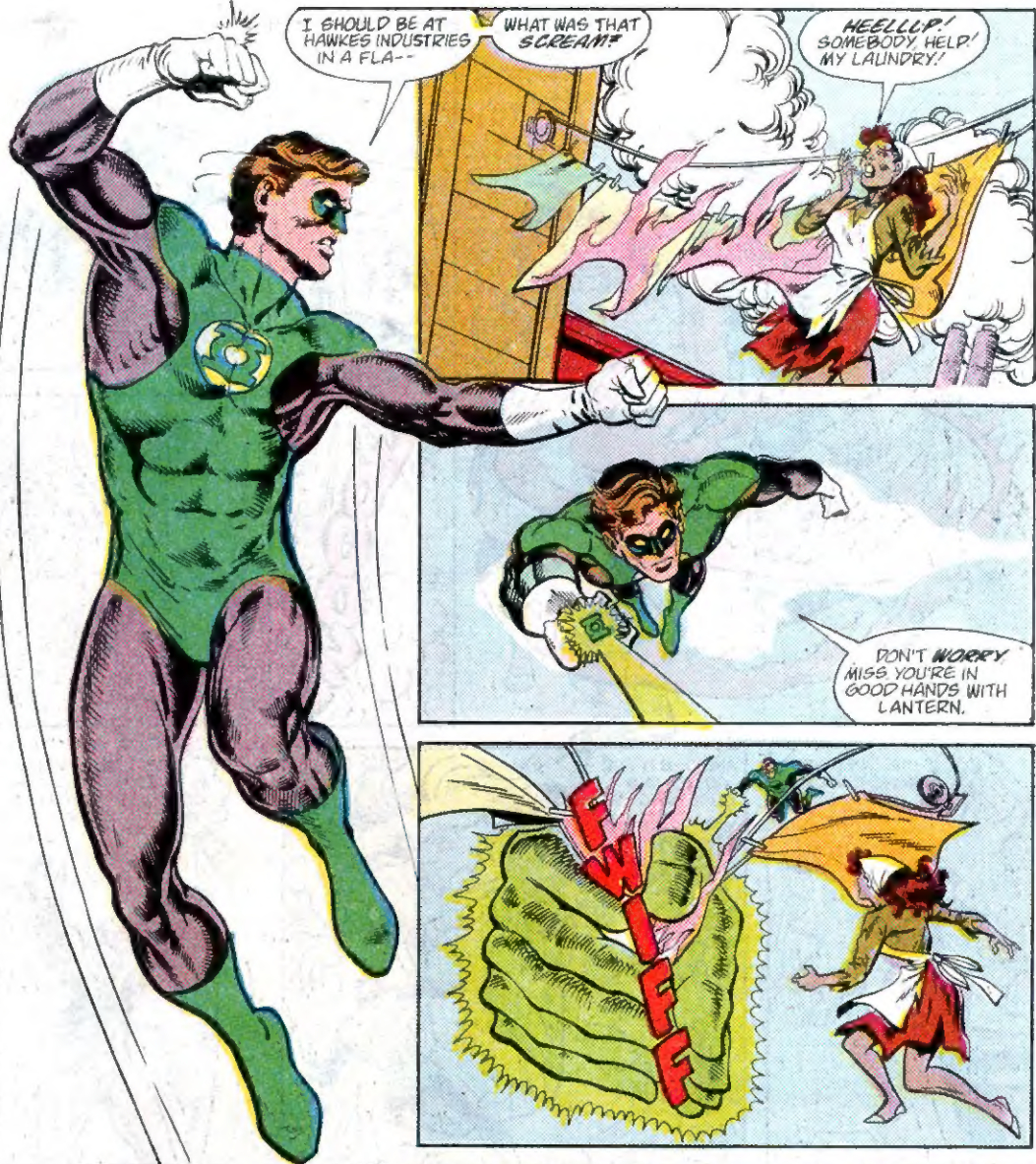
AND SAY WHAT? THAT TWO EX-CONS THEY HIRED WERE LATER KILLED, WERE ACCUSED BY A MAN IN GREEN TIGHTS AND A MASK OF ROBBING A SCIENCE EXPO?

NOW IF YOU WANT TO TALK TO THEM, I'LL GIVE YOU THE ADDRESS. MAYBE THEY'LL BE IMPRESSED BY YOU.

I MEAN, LORD KNOWS I AM.

WAS THAT SARCASTISM?

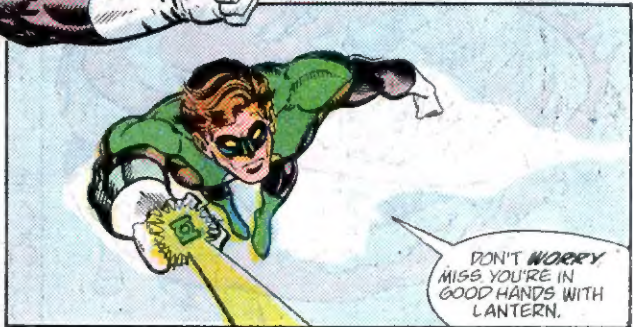




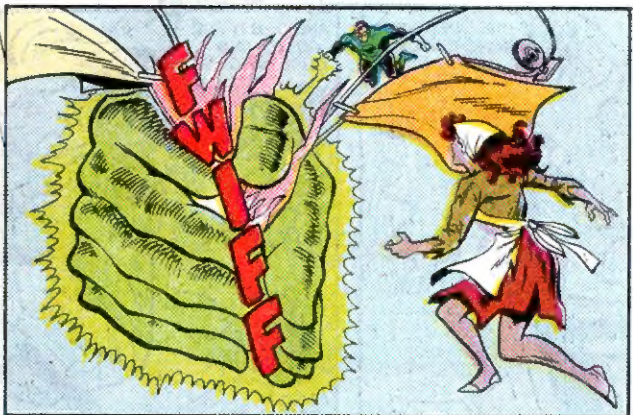
I SHOULD BE AT  
HAWKES INDUSTRIES  
IN A FLA--

WHAT WAS THAT  
SCREAM?

HEELLLO!  
SOMEBODY HELP!  
MY LAUNDRY!



DON'T WORRY  
MISS YOU'RE IN  
GOOD HANDS WITH  
LANTERN.



FWIFF  
FWIFF  
FWIFF  
FWIFF  
FWIFF



ANY IDEA HOW IT  
STARTED?

OH, WHAT DOES  
IT MATTER? YOU  
SAVED ME!

LEMME  
GIVE YOU  
A GREAT  
BIG HUG.



WELL, THAT'S  
HARDLY  
NECES--

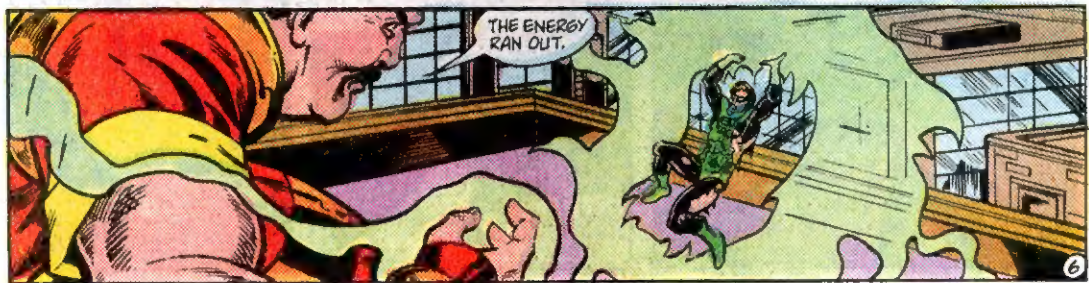
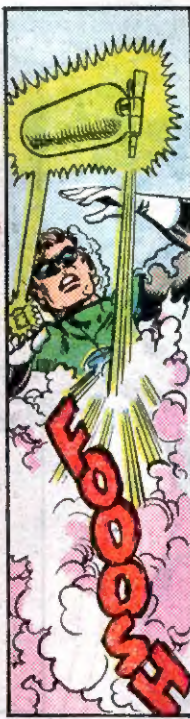


IS IT...  
GETTING HOT  
ALL OF A  
SUDDEN?

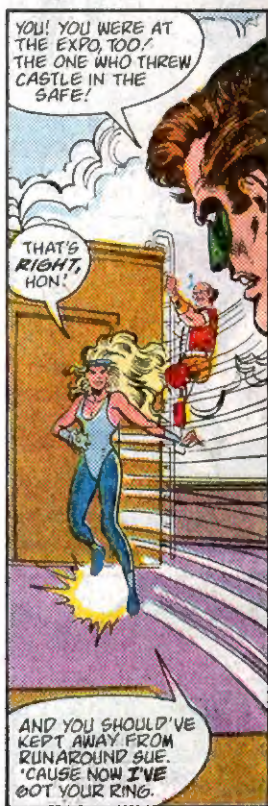


MY GOD! WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME?!

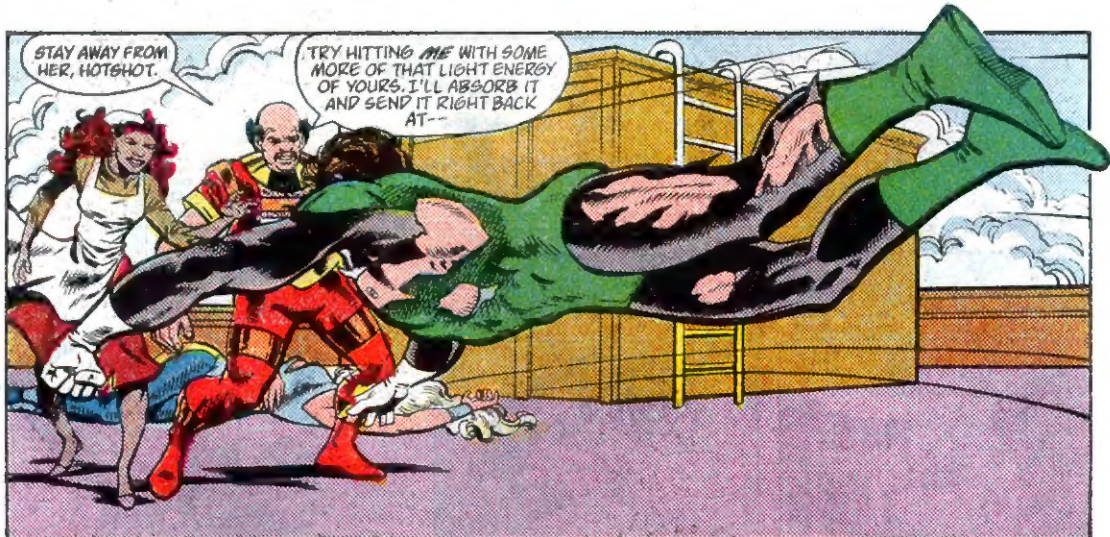
HOW ABOUT A LITTLE FIRE, SCARECROW?













# BLACKHAWK



YOU'VE DONE  
AN AWFUL LOT FOR  
ME, OLAF. I WANT  
YOU TO KNOW I  
APPRECIATE IT.

JUST DON'T  
GROW TOO  
ACCUSTOMED  
TO IT.

IF JAN STARTS  
CALLING YOU  
"CHOP-CHOP"  
AGAIN...

## SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES...

MARTIN  
PASKO  
WRITER

RICK  
BURCHETT  
ARTIST

STEVE  
HAYNIE  
LETTERER

TOM  
ZIUKO  
COLORIST

MIKE  
GOLD  
EDITOR

...YOU WILL HAVE  
TO KICK HIS ASS  
YOURSELF.

HOWEVER,  
I DO HAVE ONE  
QUESTION: WHAT  
IN HELL ARE  
YOU DOING IN  
THERE?

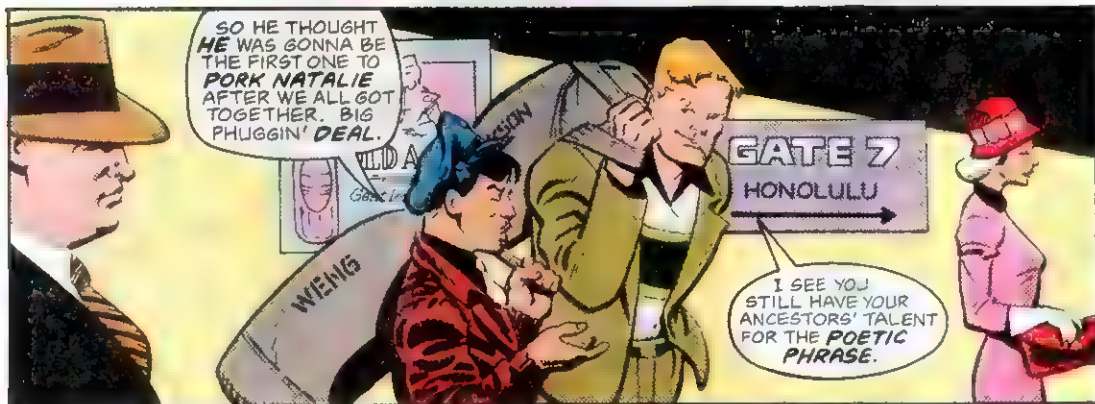
JUST GETTIN'  
SOME PICTURES  
TO SEND THE  
OLD MAN.

THIS WAY,  
WHEN THE SCHOOL  
CALLS TO TELL  
HIM I SKIPPED  
OUT...

...HE'LL HAVE  
A ROUGH IDEA  
WHERE I WENT.

I AM MORE  
CONCERNED  
ABOUT MAJOR  
"BLACKHAWK."







MEANWHILE:

THE WHOLE THING  
STINKS. WHATEVER THIS  
RICHARDSON CHARACTER  
IS REALLY UP TO,  
IT PROBABLY AIN'T  
LEGAL.

BLACK

AND THAT'S  
JUST FOR OPENERS:  
HE LOOKS FAMILIAR...  
BUT I CAN'T  
PLACE HIM.

WELL...  
IT'LL COME  
TO ME...

LOOK, WE'VE  
GOT SOME TIME  
BEFORE WENG  
ARRIVES. WE CAN  
CHECK OUT  
HIS STORY

THE LIBRARY  
AT THE AMERICAN  
CONSULATE'S GOTTA  
CARRY SOMETHING  
BESIDES THE POLICE  
GAZETTE.

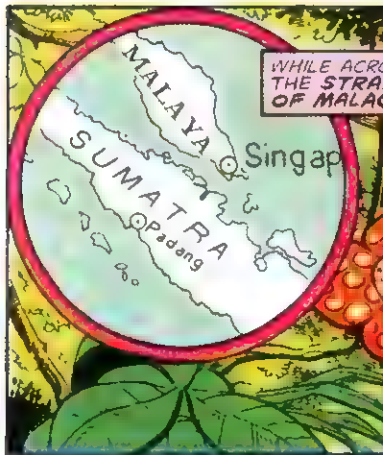
WHAT DID  
YOU TELL  
'EEM...?

ONLY THAT  
HIS RETAINER IS  
NON-REFUNDABLE  
...AND THAT WE'D  
TALK IT OVER.

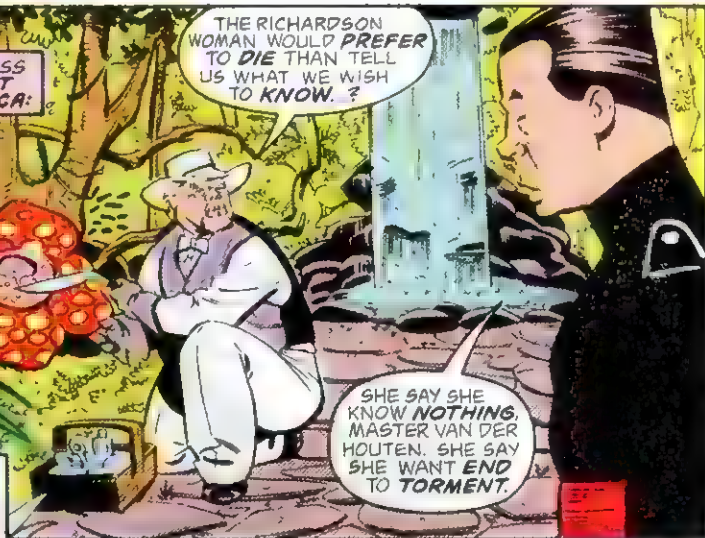
AND  
THAT'S JUST  
WHAT WE'RE  
GONNA DO.







WHILE ACROSS  
THE STRAIT  
OF MALACCA:



THE RICHARDSON  
WOMAN WOULD PREFER  
TO DIE THAN TELL  
US WHAT WE WISH  
TO KNOW. ?

SHE SAY SHE  
KNOW **NOTHING**,  
MASTER VAN DER  
HOUTEN. SHE SAY  
SHE WANT **END**  
TO **TORMENT**.



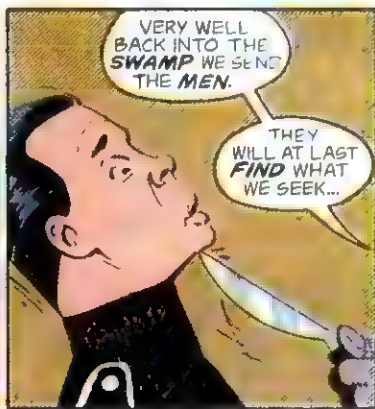
**DAMN HER!**  
MORE THAN  
**SUKARNO** SHE  
IS **STUBBORN**.  
THAT ONE.

AND THE OTHER,  
KUSTARTO --  
THE **LAST** OF  
HER CREW...?



COMA.  
BE DEAD  
IN HOUR.

BLIT  
KUSTARTO  
SURE THAT  
HE KNEW  
NOTHING.  
NO WAY.



VERY WELL  
BACK INTO THE  
**SWAMP** WE SEND  
THE MEN.

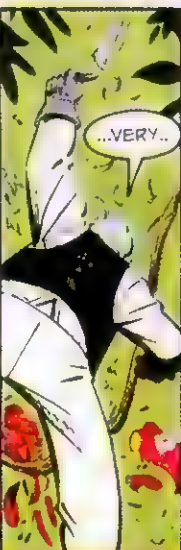
THEY  
WILL AT LAST  
**FIND** WHAT  
WE SEEK...



OR  
MASTER



WILL  
BE



...VERY...



...VERY...



...UNHAPPY!

Y-YES  
MASTER SIR

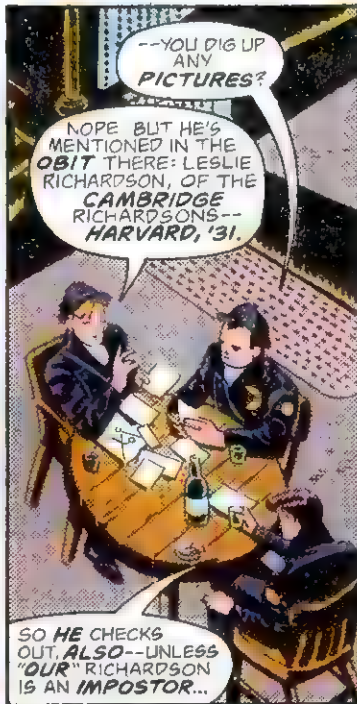




THREE DAYS LATER:

IT EVEN MADE "STARS AND STRIPES." HIS WIFE **ANGERED** IN, TRYIN' TO TAKE OFF FROM THAT AIRFIELD OUTSIDE PADANG-- JUST LIKE HE SAID.

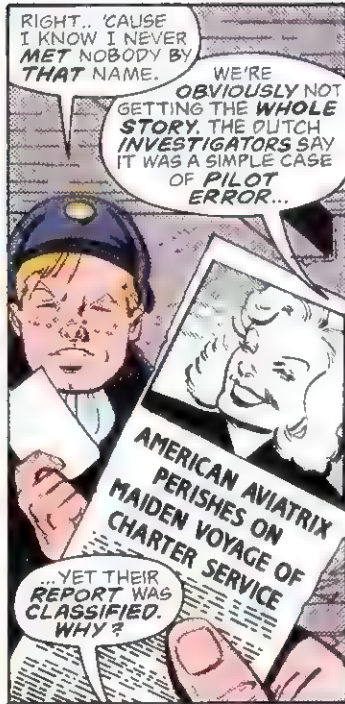
WHAT'S THE REST OF THE SKINNY ON **HUBBY**, CHUCK?--



--YOU DIG UP ANY PICTURES?

NOPE BUT HE'S MENTIONED IN THE **OBIT** THERE: LESLIE RICHARDSON, OF THE **CAMBRIDGE** RICHARDSONS-- **HARVARD, '31**.

SO HE CHECKS OUT, **ALSO**--UNLESS "OUR" RICHARDSON IS AN **IMPOSTOR**...



RIGHT.. 'CAUSE I KNOW I NEVER MET NOBODY BY THAT NAME.

WE'RE **OBVIOUSLY** NOT GETTING THE **WHOLE** STORY. THE **DUTCH** INVESTIGATORS SAY IT WAS A SIMPLE CASE OF **PILOT ERROR**...

...YET THEIR REPORT WAS CLASSIFIED. WHY?



AND RICHARDSON'S READY TO SPEND **THOUSANDS**, JUST TO CLEAR HIS WIFE'S NAME...?!

NOW, IF 'E WAS CERTAIN SHE WAS STILL **ALIVE**, AND WANTED TO **RESCUE** 'ER... FOR **ZAT**, I WOULD GIVE ANYZING.

YOU'RE TELLING ME--



--THIS IS ONE **AIRDALE** I WOULDN'T MIND **BUNKING** WITH.

ANYWAY...IT'S A SAFE BET THAT IF WE TAKE THIS JOB...

...WE'RE GETTING OURSELVES INTO SOME KIND OF **INTRIGUE**--SOMETHING **PLENTY** **HIGH-RISK**. IN OTHER WORDS...



...WE'LL TAKE IT.

JAN --?



THEY TOLD ME AT THE AIRFIELD I'D FIND YOU HERE...

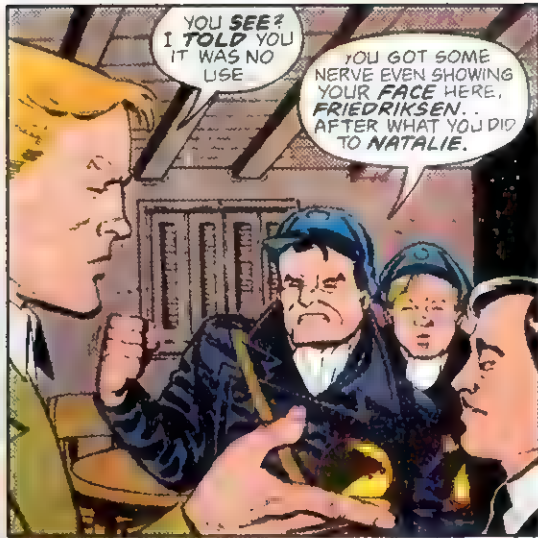
WENG YOU MADE IT!

AND I'VE GOT A **SURPRISE** FOR YOU. I BROUGHT YOU A **RADIO OPERATOR**





WELL... AN  
OPERATOR,  
AT ANY RATE.



YOU SEE?  
I TOLD YOU  
IT WAS NO  
USE

YOU GOT SOME  
NERVE EVEN SHOWING  
YOUR FACE HERE,  
FRIEDRIKSEN.  
AFTER WHAT YOU DID  
TO NATALIE.

TELL ME  
SOMETHING--  
YOU EVER EVEN  
SEEN YOUR  
KID?

JANOS..  
WHAT ARE YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT?

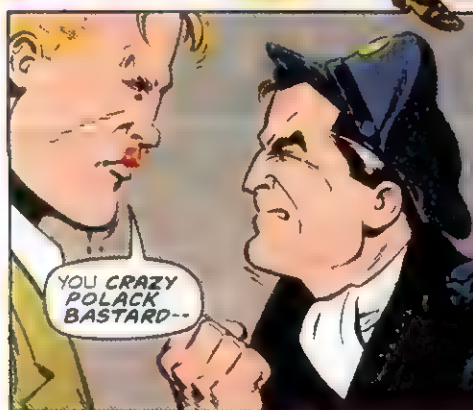


**BAFF**



YEAH?  
DID YOU LAUGH  
WHEN YOU USED A  
WORK HER  
OVER?

AND  
PUTTING HER  
EYE OUT--  
THAT MUST'VE  
BEEN A REAL  
SCREAM!



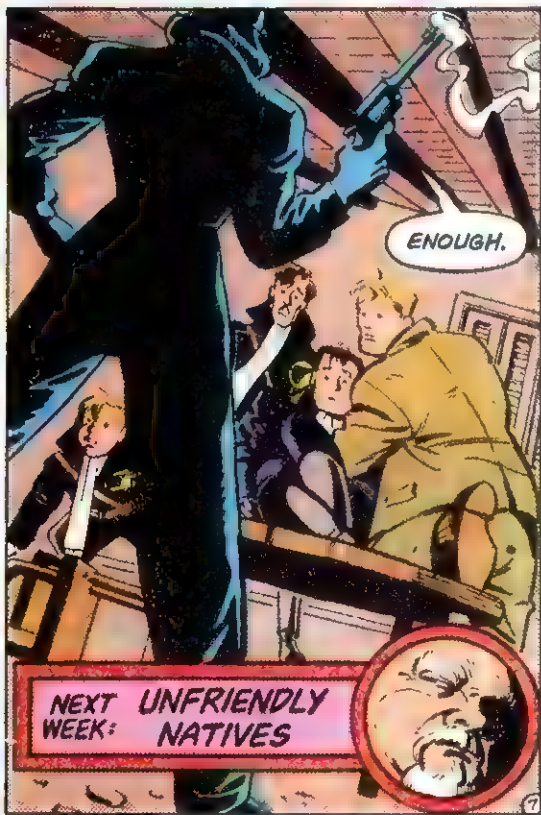
YOU CRAZY  
POLACK  
BASTARD--

JAN, YOU  
GOT IT ALL  
WRONG--



YOU  
STAY OUTTA  
THIS!







# WILD DOG

## FATAL DISTRACTION™



Wild Dog combat Log, Night Two. Tonight I am a family counselor. A husband has accused his wife of infidelity, an accusation he has announced by way of firing off his .357 mag in a neighborhood bar.

STAY  
AWAY FROM  
ME OR I'LL  
SHOOT  
HER!

THEN YOU'RE  
NOT A MAN,  
HARRY.



### CHAPTER THREE:

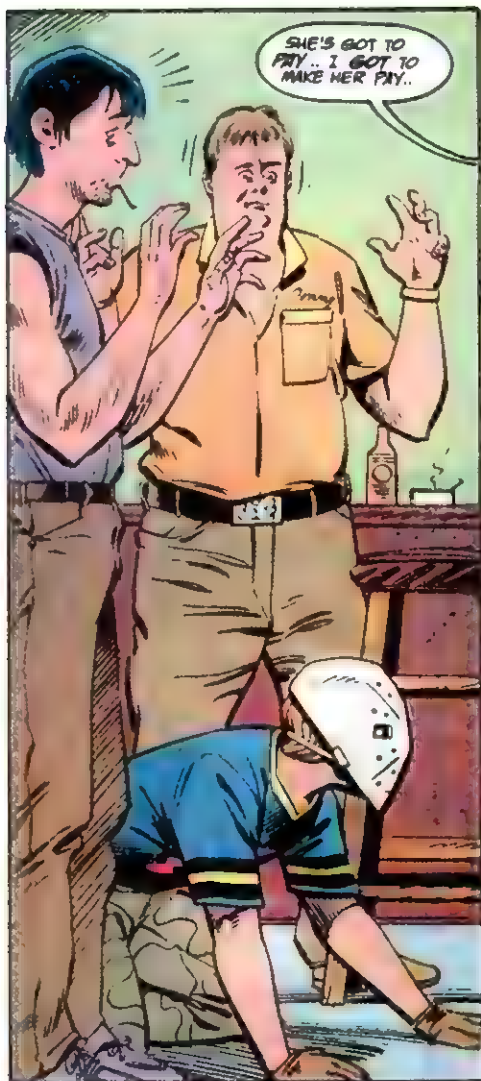
## PUPPY DOG TALE

MAX COLLINS • TERRY BEATTY  
WRITER CO-CREATORS • ARTIST  
JOHN NYBERG • TIM HARKINS • CARL GAFFORD  
INKER • LETTERER • COLORIST  
BRYAN AUGUSTYN • EDITOR

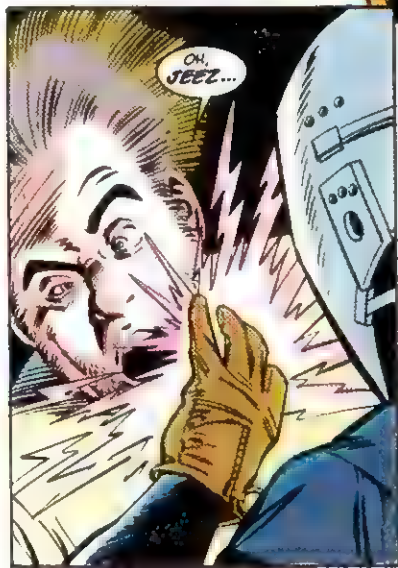
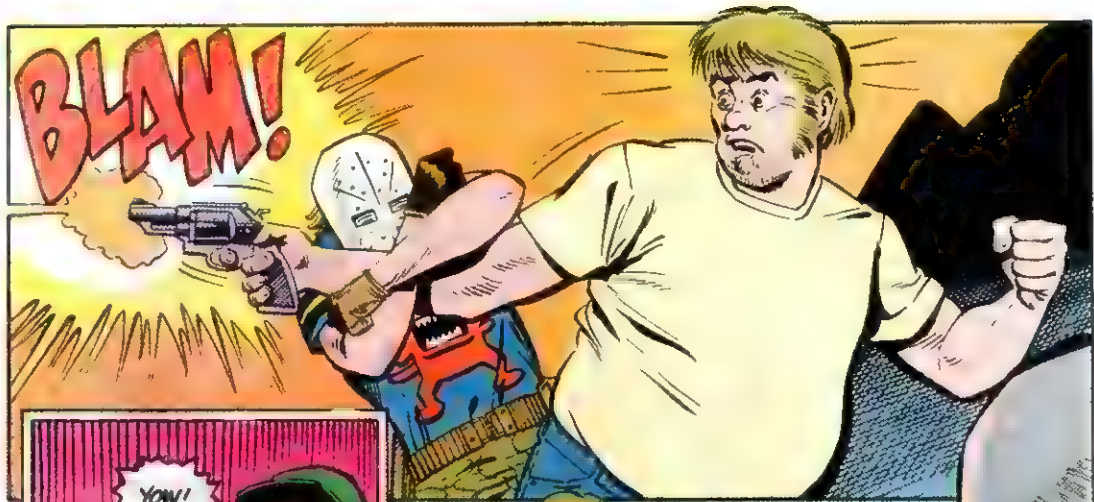




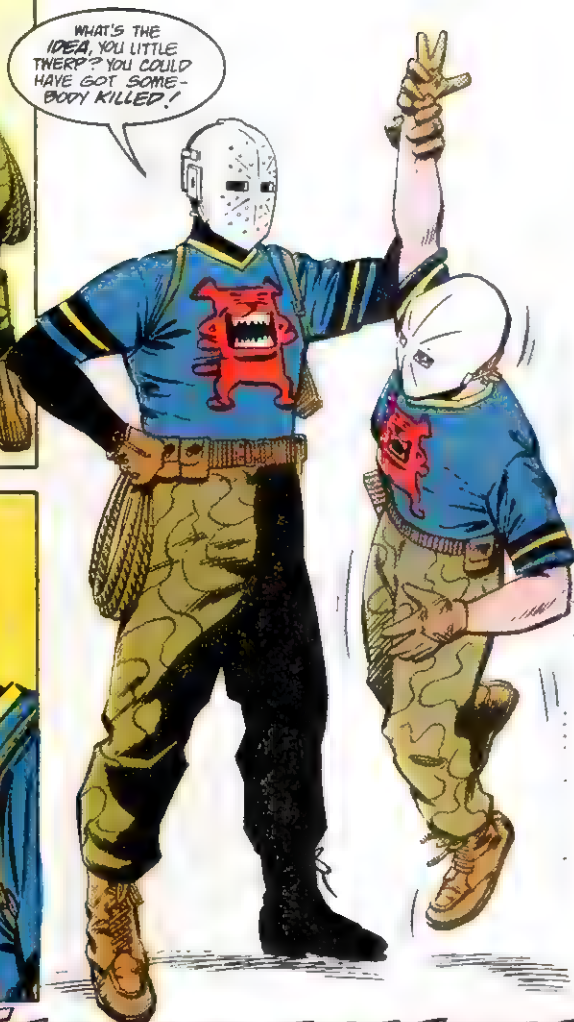




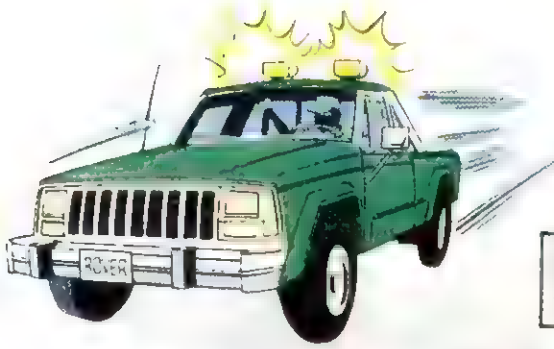






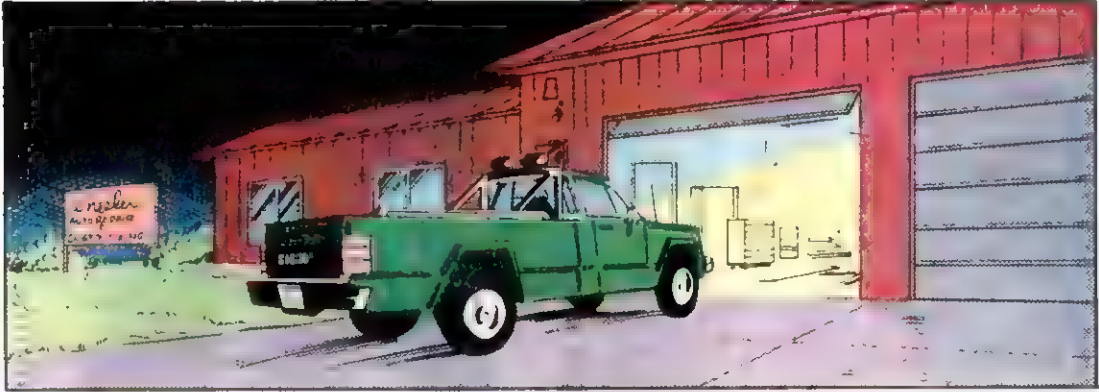




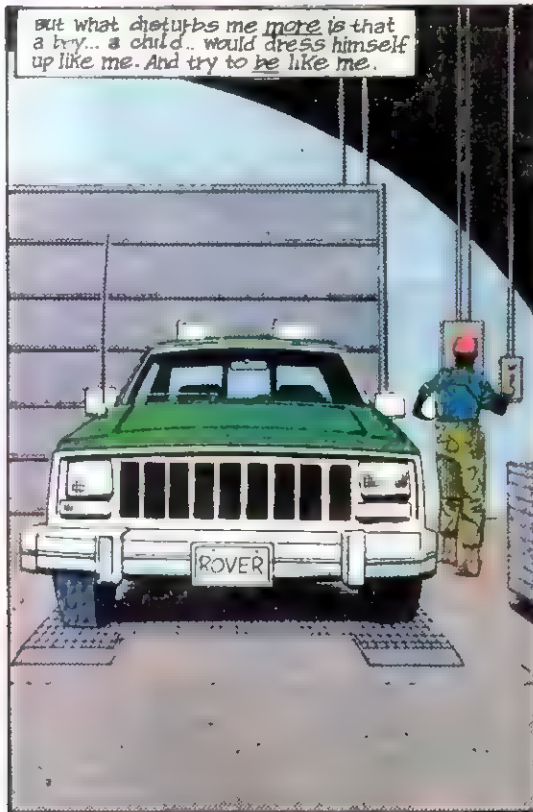


I should have grabbed that little interloper, but there was no time

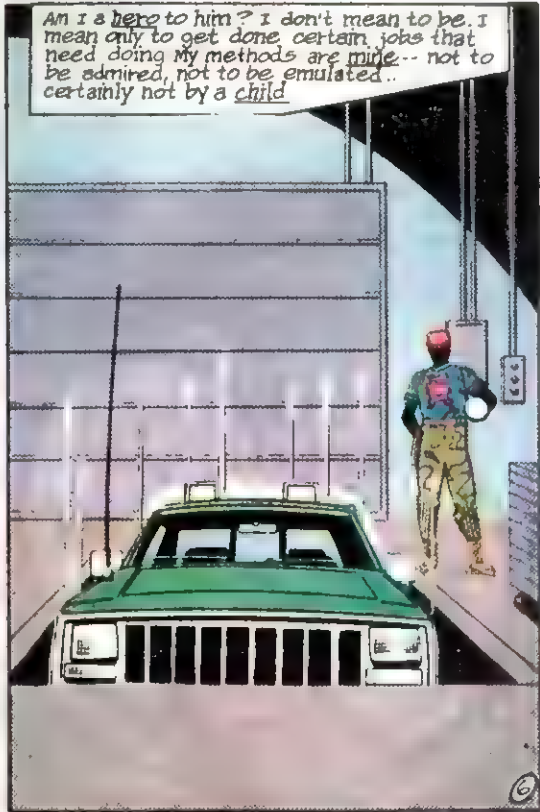
In another second, that drunk would've let his wife go, and come walking into my stun-gloved hands. that kid's "help" endangered everybody in that bar.



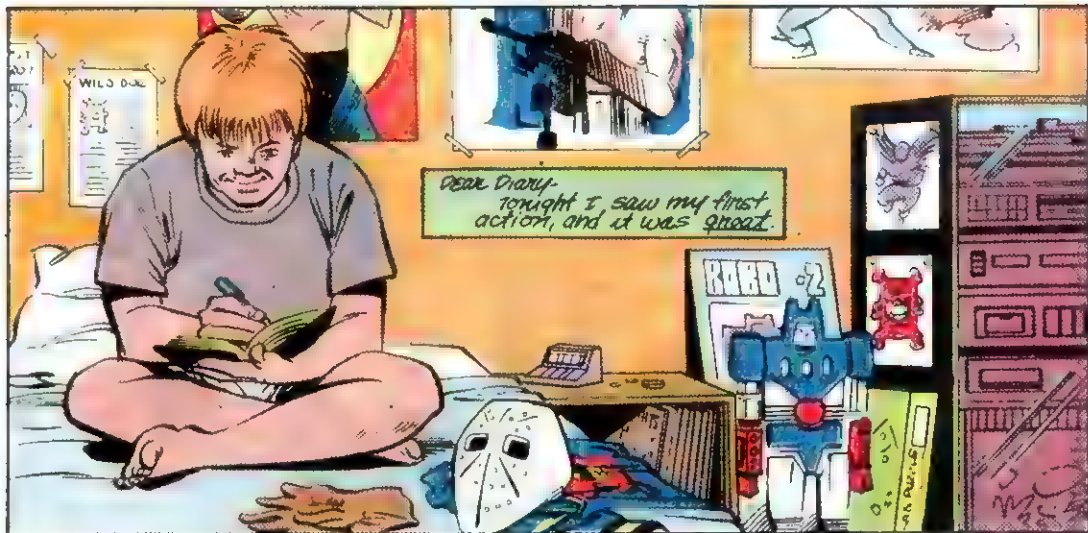
But what disturbs me more is that a try... a child... would dress himself up like me. And try to be like me.



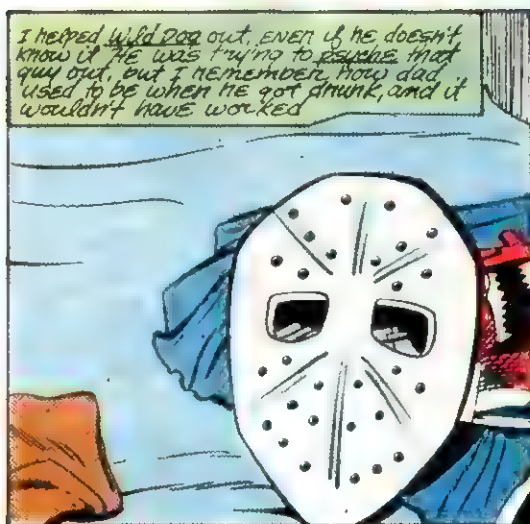
Am I a hero to him? I don't mean to be. I mean only to get done certain jobs that need doing. My methods are mine-- not to be admired, not to be emulated... certainly not by a child



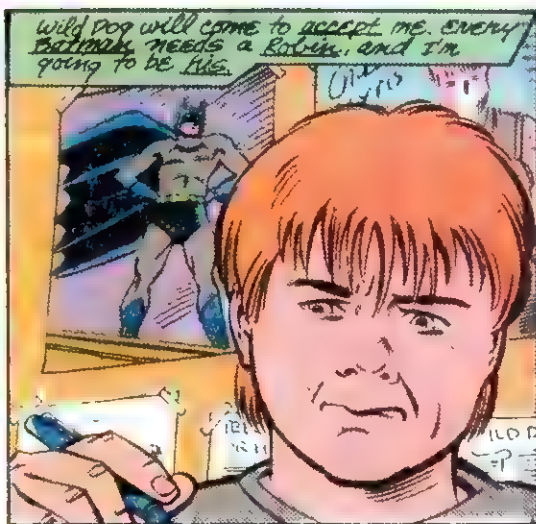




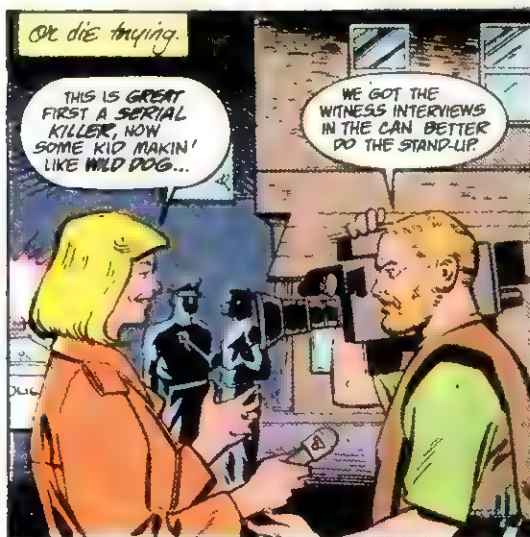
Dear Diary  
Tonight I saw my first  
action, and it was great.



I helped Wild Dog out, even if he doesn't  
know if he was trying to psyche that  
guy out, but I remember how dad  
used to be when he got drunk, and it  
wouldn't have worked



Wild Dog will come to accept me. Every  
Batman needs a Robin, and I'm  
going to be his.



Or die trying.

THIS IS GREAT  
FIRST A SERIAL  
KILLER, NOW  
SOME KID MAKIN'  
LIKE WILD DOG...

WE GOT THE  
WITNESS INTERVIEWS  
IN THE CAN BETTER  
DO THE STAND-UP



IS WILD DOG INSPIRING OUR YOUTH TO  
RECKLESSNESS? HAS HE SPANNED A  
"WILD PUP" JUST AS DANGEROUS AS  
HIMSELF? THIS IS SUSAN KING,  
EYEWITNESS NEWS...

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK!



Dear Mike, Bob and Brian,

I'd like to share some thoughts on ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #606

I'm growing to dislike the Green Lantern strip. It's becoming too darn gloomy! I have trouble believing that none of GL's old JLA buddies have time to talk with an old friend who saved each of their lives at some point or another. Instead of telling a story about alienation, as he probably wanted to, Jim Owsley merely made Ollie, Clark and Bruce look like first-class jerks. I was very unhappy to learn that Tod Smith is taking over as GL artist. "The List" did show some improvement over his earlier work, though.

The Green Arrow scene was okay at first, because it seemed as if Owsley tried to capture the flavor of the ongoing GA series, but as soon as Ollie started to bitch, the scene fell apart. Where's the older, wiser, more rational Oliver Queen we're growing accustomed to?

I don't care for the Secret Six because I don't care for Dan Spiggle's art. Sorry, Dan

Deadman, on the other hand, I enjoy a great deal. Baron has a good sense of how to best use the eight-page format as far as structuring stories is concerned and his cynicism works well in the strip. I was, however, offended and confused by Satan's sexist suggestion that "most wickedness is male." Care to enlighten us, Mike and Barbara? I don't care for DeZuniga's inking Jurgens' pencils and this seems a common opinion among fans I've talked with. Why do the characters suggest on the final page of the story that it will take them a long time to reach the mountain? Deadman can fly pretty fast.

This week's Superman installment has been the best so far—we finally got into the story. Though I'm not thrilled with the feature, I do like Beatty's inks over Swan's pencils.

Wild Dog is one of the better strips in the book. No questions, criticisms or suggestions here

As for Blackhawk, I'm only going to repeat myself from an earlier letter. Grell writes the strip with Chaykin's sense of sophistication without Chaykin's propensity for confusing readers. I'm sorry to hear that Grell will be leaving the series

The Gammill/Nyberg cover was good, though not one of the better ones in the series, but, hey, it's had some pretty heavy competition, right? Let me suggest a few artists you guys might seek future covers from: Rogers,

Maguire, McFarlane, Kirby, Steacy, Totleben.

Frank Balkin  
 5678 Glade View  
 Memphis, TN 38119

*Sorry to hear that you were less than enthusiastic about Green Lantern and Secret Six, Frank. Hope that subsequent issues were more to your taste—particularly since both have undergone some creative realignment.*

*Your cover art suggestions are duly noted, and in a few cases already under way. Which? That would, of course, be telling.*

*Oh, and Frank... you mean that you're surprised that Satan would say something offensive? Now who could make him do that? Could it be ... oh, say ... Dana Carvey?*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Folks,

Welcome to the "Now I'm thoroughly confused" club! I don't understand! In ACW #606 Hal Jordan ("The List," p. 4, panel 6) talks about going "way back ... to the old days ... the early years..." while over his head appear members of the first (and in my opinion only) Justice League. So far, no problem. Now, what the hey is Superman doing here? I thought he was never a member of the JLA—according to Byrne. Have you, shall we say, editorially "overlooked" this little detail now that Mr. Byrne is no longer with you? What gives here? Please, help a poor, confused reader to once again understand the new and improved DC Universe.

ACW is fantastic! ... in part. I read this comic for the Secret Six feature. Don't ever drop it! Speaking of dropping, ditch Superman! If you aren't going to do Superman right, don't do him at all! Two pages, even once a week, makes for very choppy, boring reading. Also, I will be very glad to see Blackhawk go on hiatus. I at least read the Superman feature, which is more than I can say for Blackhawk. Enough negative! I think the ACW concept is wonderful! I love getting the weekly continuity and I love the idea of a rotating cast. I can barely wait for the Black Canary and Nightwing features! See you in seven!

DC Jordan  
 7612 White Oak Rd.  
 Garner, NC 27529

*As any true comic fan would know, one of Superman's myriad powers is the ability to appear in other hero's flashbacks—strange, but true!*

*By the way, you're awfully negative for someone named DC.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Everybody,

ACW #606 was another in a series of great DCs. I can sympathize with Hal. We, the readers, have seen all that he's been through. The death of Katma, the end of the GL Corps, his fights with John, the whole bit. He's looking for something to belong to and to give his life more meaning. First he had the Guardians and the whole Corps. The Guardians went quickly only to be followed by the Corps. He had the JLA for a while, but after his reunion with most of them in JLI #10, I don't think that's what he's looking for. Whatever it is, I hope you guys can give it to him soon.

The Superman story is also peaking my interest. After reading a bit about the possibility of the man of steel being a man of God, in the March 14th issue of Time, I thought it might make a good story. It seems believable enough that some fanatics might be inclined to see him as being heavenly (after all, his Kryptonian name resembles Hebrew syllables meaning "all that God is!").

Another thing I noticed was the resemblance of the disciples on the cover to the New Aphelionians depicted in bonus book #1 in ACTION #599. Coincidence, or is this a carefully planned, part of the story? Only time will tell.

Jay Roe  
 1340 3rd Street  
 Brookings, SD 57006

\*\*\*\*\*

And now, the moment we've all been waiting for the envelope please ... well then, here is the

### THE GREAT ACW POLL!

The features in ACW #606 are ranked according to your votes. Previous week's standings are shown in parentheses

1. Green Lantern (2)
2. Deadman (3)
3. Blackhawk (1)
4. Wild Dog (4)
5. Secret Six (5)
6. Superman (6)

Thanks for your votes, but don't forget to write to tell us what and why as well.

\*\*\*\*\*



Dear Folks,

I just wanted to drop you a line to say the new Action concept is excellent.

I was one of those fans 20 years ago who enjoyed The Secret Six. I doubt there are many of us left, but thanks for resurrecting the group, however briefly I hope the surviving Sixers (if there are any) are kept around to help out the new group.

The Secret Six chapters are my favorite in the book. Intelligent scripts written on many levels (yes, I caught most of the hidden "Mission Impossible" references) never goes out of style.

In fact, all the stories were excellent. I could easily lose Wild Dog, the weakest of the bunch. The Blackhawk story is coming along. At least this has a plot to it, unlike that terribly dull bookshelf mini-series. Was that a waste or what?

This is the Green Lantern I've wanted to see, particularly in 606 where he gets shot down by his friends. I think Green Arrow was a bit out of character, I can't see him being that cold. I like the idea of Hal being on his own. He had grown far too dependent on that huge supporting cast. Do me a favor and lose the rest of the former Green Lanterns, especially that ridiculous chipmunk.

The Superman storyline is adequate, but should really be expanded or dumped. I know you were going for the Sunday comics feel, but it's not working.

I hope you use ACTION as a testing ground for some new experiments. Solo stories of members of the Legion of Super-Heroes; untold stories of dead characters; or returns of fine, under-used characters like the Secret Six, Bat Lash or Anthro.

How about a story set in 1952 featuring the Justice Society? No offense, but you folks at DC have never really done the JSA justice. I would love to see a solid JSA story that doesn't get cute or end with a member being killed. Maybe a solo story featuring Mr. Terrific, sure he was a jerk but in the right hands he could be an interesting character.

You get my point. DC has hundreds of characters, many of them now deceased. Let's see some new adventures of some characters who never got a fair shake.

Keep up the quality work

Mike Sangiacomo  
10718 Colorado  
Crown Point, IN 46307

*Current plans call for several entirely new series to enter ACW with issue 636, which we're calling the "boom issue"—some of your wishes may come true, only time will tell.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Action Aces,

Green Lantern Hal Jordan is the best Green Lantern that has ever existed in the universe. That was a common theme in the silver age series. That John Stewart could take over for Hal and within a period of a year usurp this title from Hal always seemed absurd to me. I

have no doubt that John was the better leader. Hal never was one. To see this, look at the JLA adventures. But in the clutch it was Hal who would save the day on his own with his power ring and his wits as in the Green Lantern Corps series. So it should have been John Stewart as leader, with Hal the most active member. Well, we certainly don't have to worry about that any more with only four rings left in the universe, Hal's, Ch'p's, Guy's and G'nort's.

It appears James Owsley shares the same affection I do for the greatest green gladiator ever, for he has single-handedly destroyed the Corps and left Hal with his ring. Fantastic!!

Wild Dog: Unfortunately, I never read the original Wild Dog mini-series. If it is as good as the current plot I will have to get it. Censorship and book banning is wrong. Max Collins is giving a clear-cut argument for avoiding censors with his "Moral Stand." If we let some literary smut be banned, even if it may be offensive to us, then comic books may be next (God forbid) and maybe someday someone will actually try to ban classics like Huckleberry Finn from schools! What? They did that already? Well, as I said.

The Secret Six: Great idea. A new Secret Six. I can't wait to find out who Mockingbird is. It is my opinion that all the old group died in that plane crash, killed by the new Mockingbird, one of the new group. Mockingbird is dead, listen to the Mockingbird. Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha

Deadman: He's gotta be the coolest dead guy in the universe. After years in comic limbo, Deadman's finally getting the attention he deserves. Perhaps a new series could spring from this venture.

Blackhawk: These days it seems like too many writers are trying to show you how confused they can make you. I felt this was the case in the prestige format Blackhawk mini-series. I am glad that Mike Grell is not taking that approach. The story focuses on action/adventure. Blackhawk is not the nicest guy in the world but he sure knows how to fight. If he had any respect for women he could be a real Casanova.

Superman: Another fantastic idea. Serial adventures can be the most intriguing, twisted stories of all because they have to end with a cliffhanger after only a few panels. Case in point, the old Flash Gordon strip (Here's your chance for a plug). I have just recently read a compilation of Alex Raymond's original stories. Non-stop action. Superman can be the same way. My only gripe is that from the art and story these appear to be pre-crisis tales. I realize that Curt Swan has been doing the big S for many years but if you are going to try to keep Superman popular in the post-Byrne era, don't return him to the mundane past. Perhaps Swan should take a look at Ordway's and Byrne's drawings to get a feel for the "new look."

Thanks for the best weekly anthology comic ever. May it last longer than the ADVENTURE anthology attempt.

Yours in brightest day and blackest night.

Mark Balbes  
601 Jones Ferry Rd  
Apt. B20  
Carrboro, NC 27510

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* VOTE! \*\*\*\*\*

Just as soon as you've finished this issue of ACTION COMICS WEEKLY—write us a letter or a postcard and rank this issue's stories in order of preference: the one you like the most first, the one you liked second second, and so on. Each week, we'll tally the vote and print the results right here in our letter column. Your opinion counts, so VOTE!

Send your ballots to:

Action Comics Weekly  
Department 617  
DC Comics Inc.  
666 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10103

NEXT: The continuing adventures of all our heroes, plus the return of Deadman. All that, and a surprising Nightwing cover by Jon Bogdanove and Murphy Anderson. Meet you back here in just seven days.

—Brian Augustyn





# SUPERMAN<sup>®</sup>

Created by  
JERRY SIEGEL &  
JOE SHUSTER

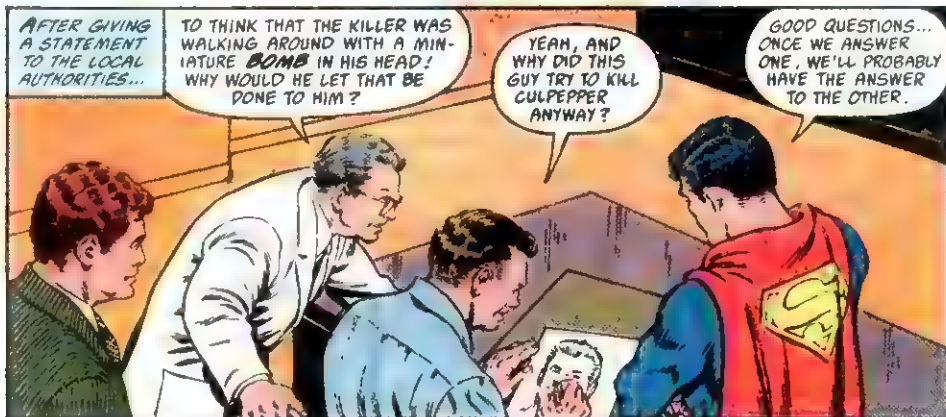
LAST ISSUE: SUPERMAN DISCOVERED THAT THE WOULD-BE ASSASSIN OF CHARLES CULPEPPER HAD BEEN KILLED BY REMOTE CONTROL -- THROUGH A RADIO TRANSCEIVER IMPLANTED IN HIS SKULL.

AFTER GIVING A STATEMENT TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES...

TO THINK THAT THE KILLER WAS WALKING AROUND WITH A MIN-IATURE **BOMB** IN HIS HEAD! WHY WOULD HE LET THAT BE DONE TO HIM?

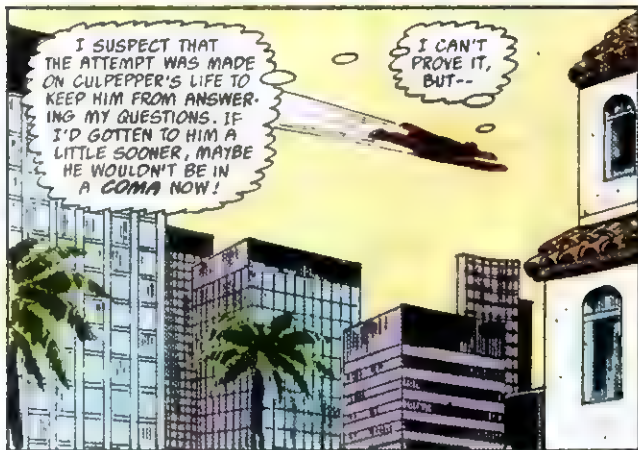
YEAH, AND WHY DID THIS GUY TRY TO KILL CULPEPPER ANYWAY?

GOOD QUESTIONS... ONCE WE ANSWER ONE, WE'LL PROBABLY HAVE THE ANSWER TO THE OTHER.



I SUSPECT THAT THE ATTEMPT WAS MADE ON CULPEPPER'S LIFE TO KEEP HIM FROM ANSWERING MY QUESTIONS. IF I'D GOTTEN TO HIM A LITTLE SOONER, MAYBE HE WOULDN'T BE IN A **GOMA** NOW!

I CAN'T PROVE IT, BUT--

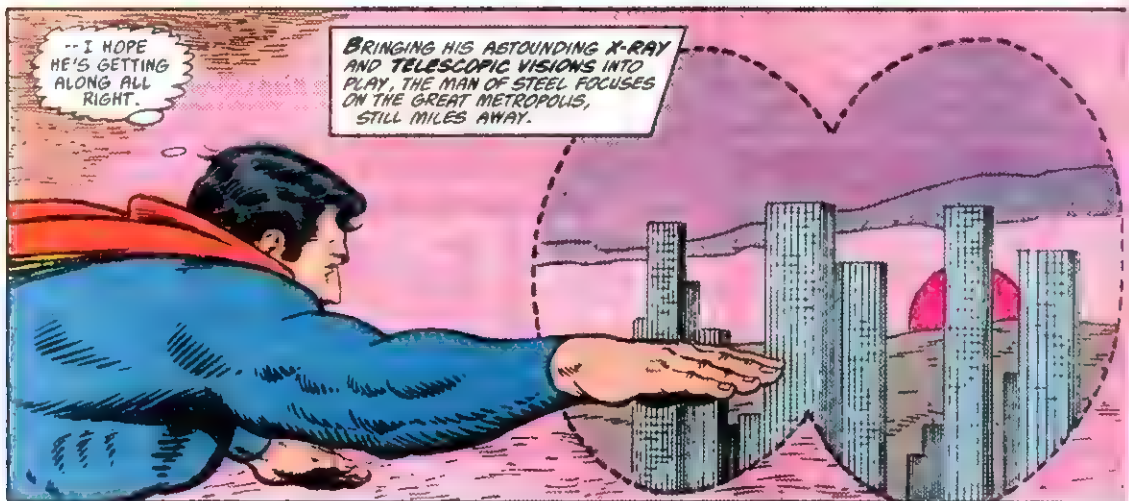


--I'M SURE CULPEPPER WAS PART OF A PLOT TO EXTERMINATE THAT **FELLOW-SHIP** OF MISGUIDED SOULS WHO WORSHIP ME AS IF I WERE A GOD!



--I HOPE HE'S GETTING ALONG ALL RIGHT.

BRINGING HIS ASTOUNDING X-RAY AND TELESCOPIC VISIONS INTO PLAY, THE MAN OF STEEL FOCUSES ON THE GREAT METROPOLIS, STILL MILES AWAY.





WHEN DOCTORS  
TRIED TO  
EXAMINE THE  
DEVICE, IT  
EXPLODED!

# "MISSING PERSON"

ROGER  
STERN  
WRITER

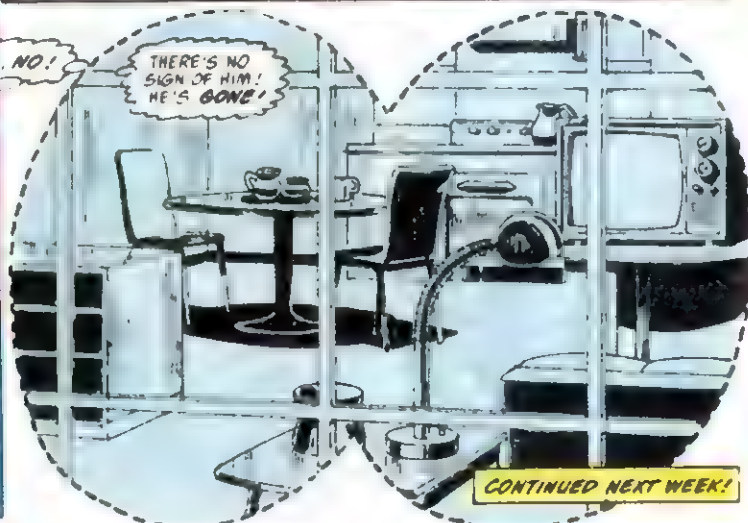
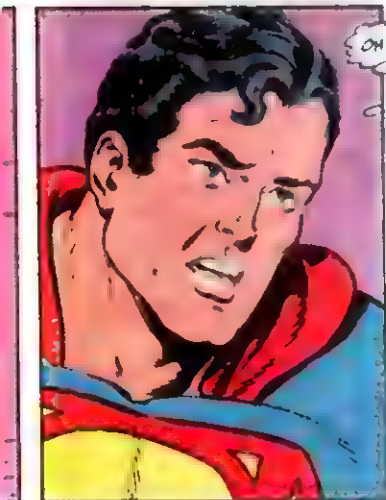
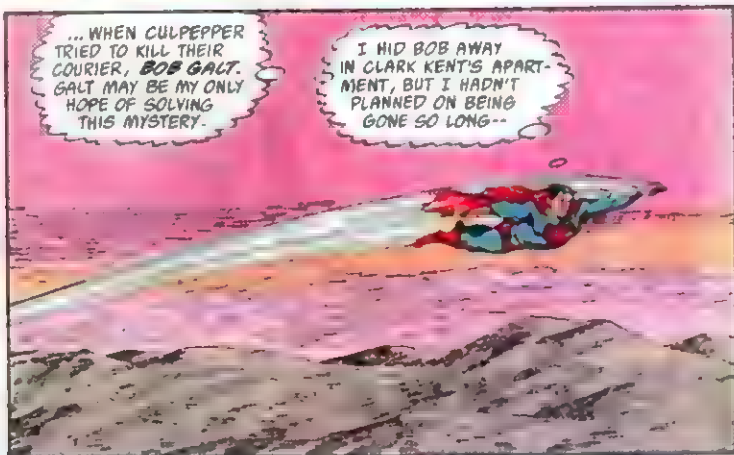
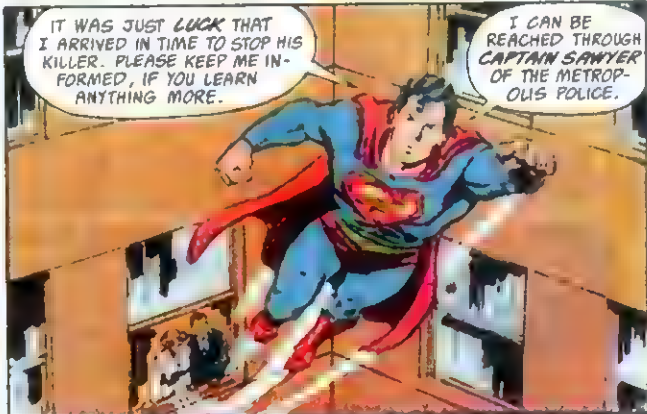
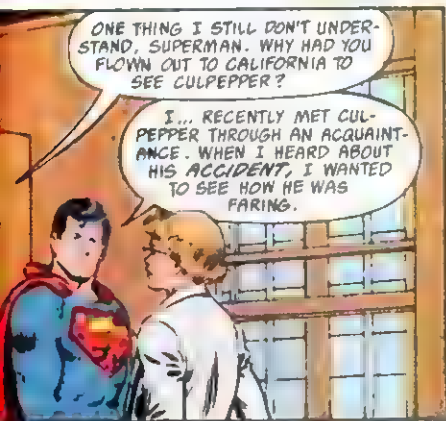
CURT  
SWAN  
PENCILER

MURPHY  
ANDERSON  
INKER

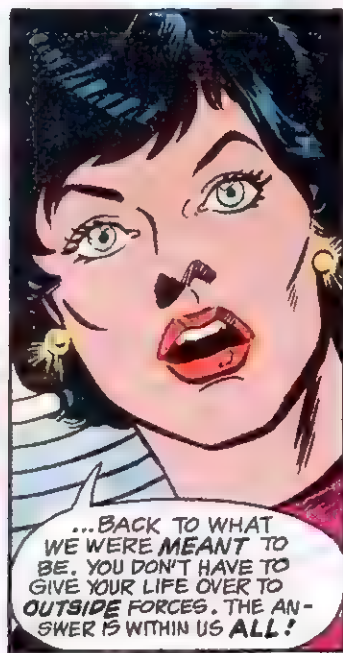
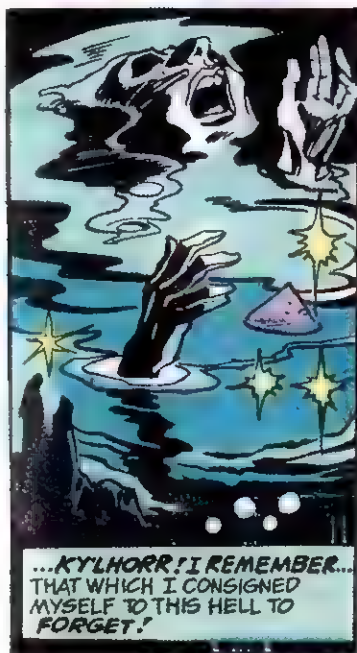
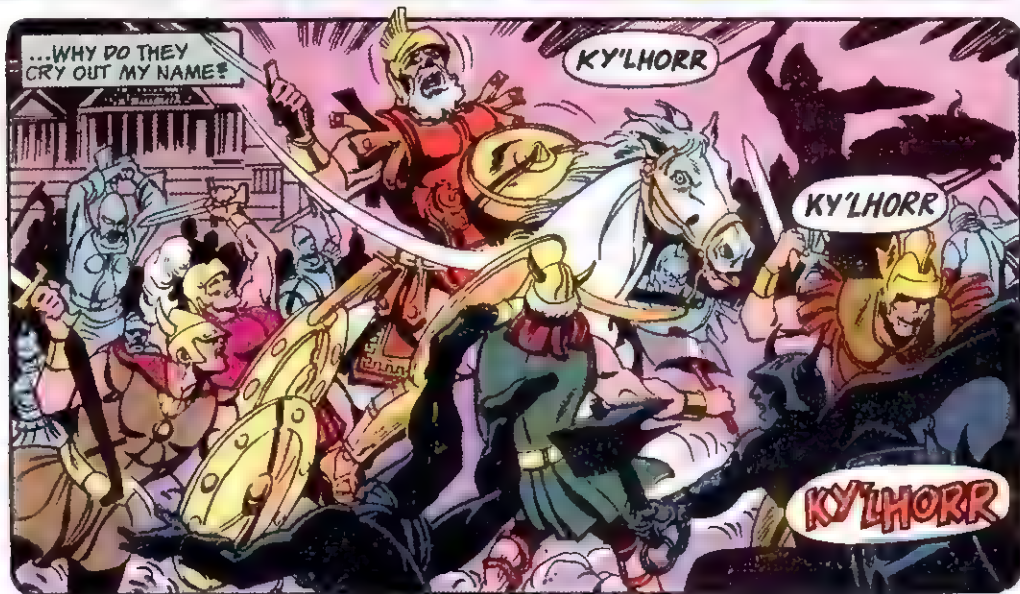
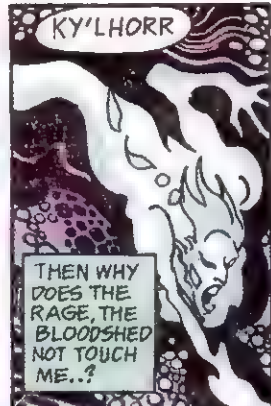
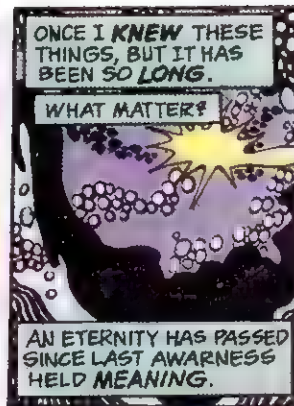
BILL  
CALLEY  
LETTERER

TOM  
LUK  
COLORIST

M.F.  
CARLIN  
EDITOR









# PHANTOM STRANGER

YES, MY FRIENDS...  
WITHIN **YOU!** YOU'VE ALL  
ALLOWED **OTHERS** TO  
**CONTROL** YOUR LIVES.  
THEY TELL YOU WHEN TO  
WORK... WHEN TO REST...  
**HOW TO LIVE YOUR**  
LIFE.

THE TIME  
HAS COME TO  
**STOP TO WREST**  
**CONTROL FROM THE**  
**OTHERS!**

BUT **HOW** DO YOU  
DO THIS? **HOW** CAN WE  
ESCAPE THE FORCES  
THAT GUIDE US, **AGAINST**  
OUR WILLS?

## "CHANNEL SWITCHING"

PAUL KUPPERBERG  
WRITER

PETRA SCOTese  
COLORIST

JOE ORLANDO  
ARTIST

RENEE WITTERSTAETTER  
EDITOR

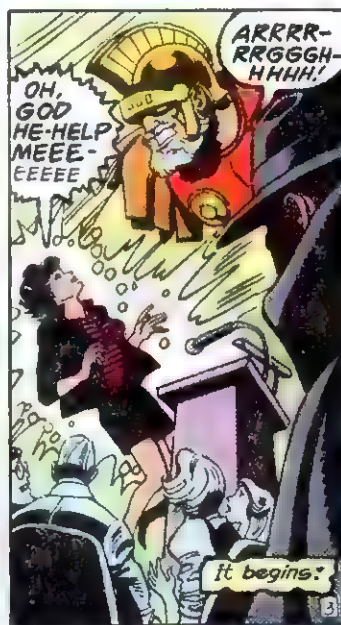
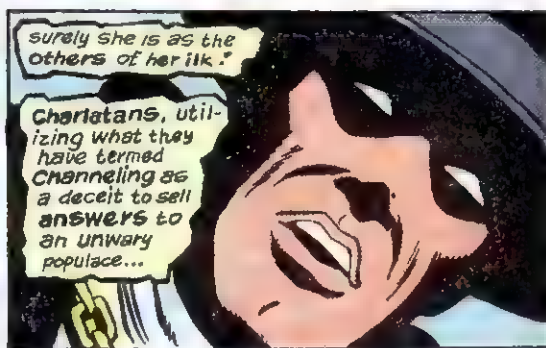
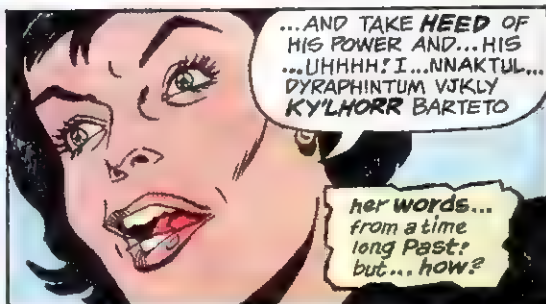
FRED CARRILLO  
INKER & LETTERER

BY BEING  
**STRONG!** NO  
ONE CAN  
CONTROL ONE  
WHO HAS  
**STRENGTH.**

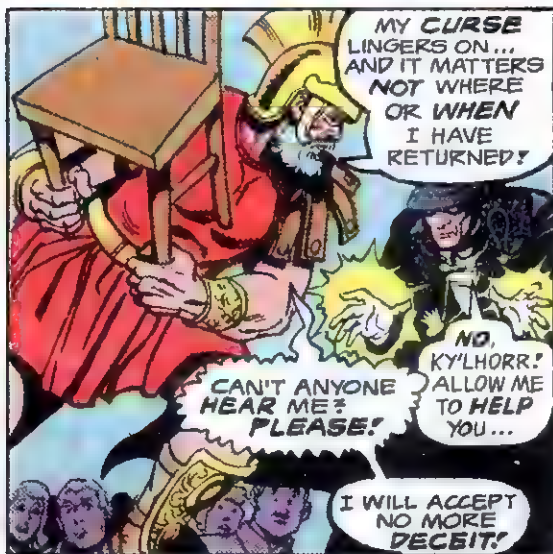
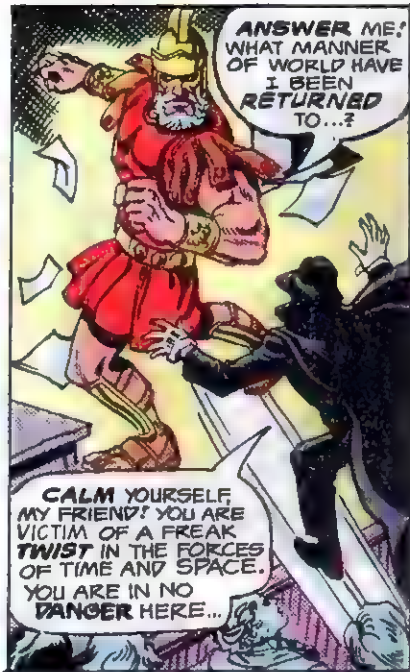
AND **THAT** IS WHAT I'M  
HERE TO **REVEAL** TO YOU...  
**HOW** TO FIND THE STRENGTH  
LAYING **DORMANT** IN  
US ALL--

--TO **DEFY**  
THE **AUTHORITY**  
THAT MANKIND HAS  
ABDICATED HIS WILL TO...  
**AUTHORITY, THAT IN REALITY,**  
**IS NO STRONGER THAN YOU!**

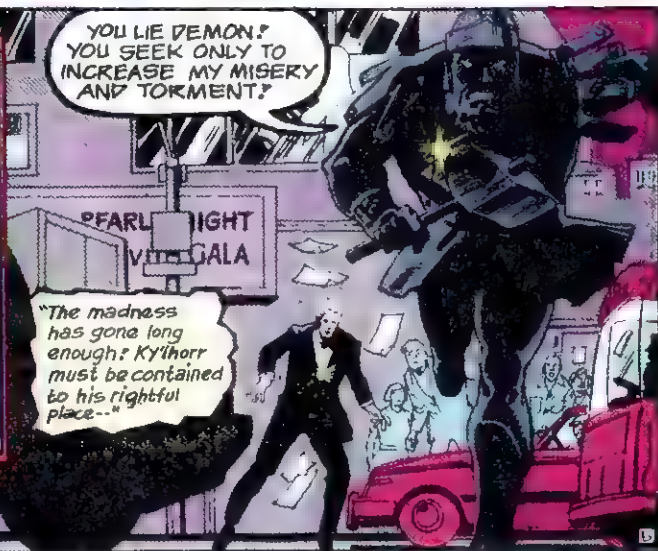
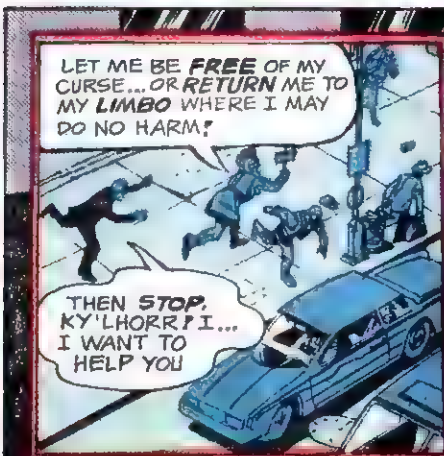




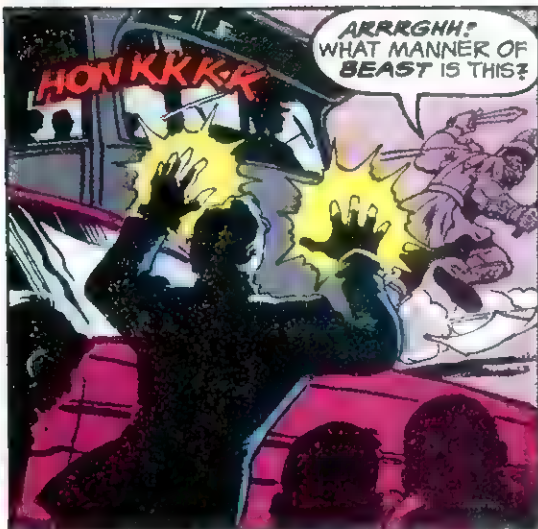
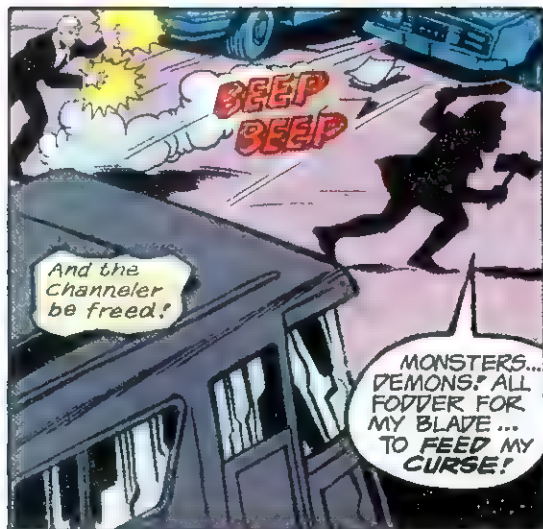




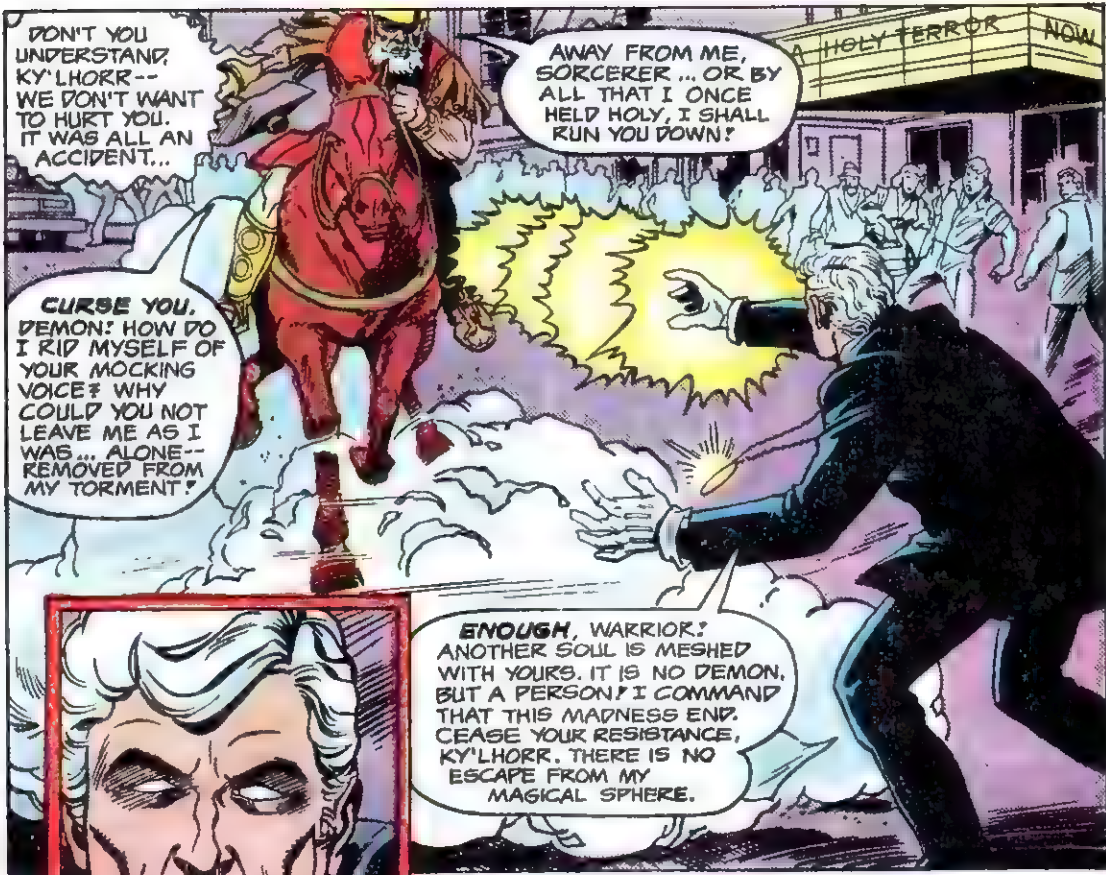












DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND, KY'LHÖRR-- WE DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU. IT WAS ALL AN ACCIDENT...

AWAY FROM ME, SORCERER ... OR BY ALL THAT I ONCE HELD HOLY, I SHALL RUN YOU DOWN!

CURSE YOU, DEMON: HOW DO I RID MYSELF OF YOUR MOCKING VOICE? WHY COULD YOU NOT LEAVE ME AS I WAS ... ALONE-- REMOVED FROM MY TORMENT?



CEASE!

ENOUGH, WARRIOR! ANOTHER SOUL IS MESSED WITH YOURS. IT IS NO DEMON, BUT A PERSON! I COMMAND THAT THIS MADNESS END. CEASE YOUR RESISTANCE, KY'LHÖRR. THERE IS NO ESCAPE FROM MY MAGICAL SPHERE.



NEVER! THE WARRIOR KING OF ATLANTIS SHALL NEVER ... AH...

Somehow I know his memories. He really is from Ancient Atlantis... carrying with him a curse, placed on him a million years ago by sorcerers opposing his rule...



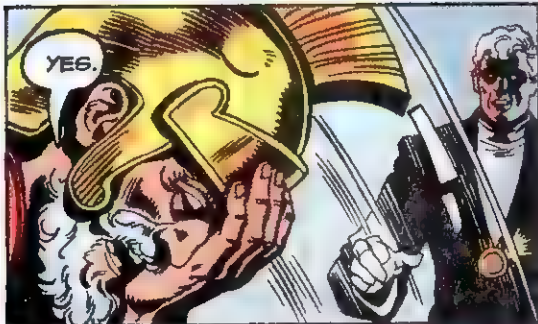
...LET ETERNAL REST BE DENIED THEE. LET DEATH AND BLOODLUST BE THINE ONLY COMPANIONS UNTIL THINE CURSE IS DEFEATED...

...FOR AS LONG AS OUR MAGIC EXISTS!





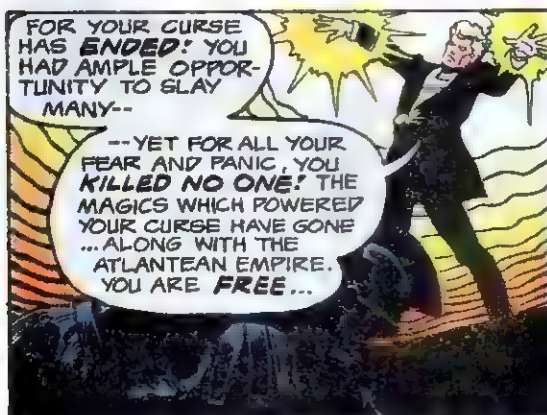
...Ky'l'horr became a... a Killing Machine-- everywhere he went after that, the curse went. Friend or foe, he killed them all...



YES.

YOU, BORCERER, SPEAK THE TRUTH. I COULD STAND IT NO MORE, I CAST MYSELF INTO THE MAGICAL MAELSTROM-- A DIMENSION WHERE I COULD DO NO MORE HARM... WHERE I WISHED TO REMAIN...

THERE IS NO MORE NEED FOR THAT, MY FRIEND...



FOR YOUR CURSE HAS ENDED: YOU HAD AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO SLAY MANY--

--YET FOR ALL YOUR FEAR AND PANIC, YOU **KILLED NO ONE!** THE MAGICS WHICH POWERED YOUR CURSE HAVE GONE ...ALONG WITH THE ATLANTIAN EMPIRE. YOU ARE **FREE...**



FREE TO GO TO YOUR **REST.** FAREWELL, MY FRIEND...

OHOOHHH...

IS... IS IT OVER?



YES, SYLVIA BLAINE. KY'L'HORR HAS GONE... AND I PRAY YOU HAVE LEARNED THE FOLLY OF TAMPERING WITH FORCES UNKNOWN FOR THE PURPOSE OF DUPING THE LONELY AND LOST.



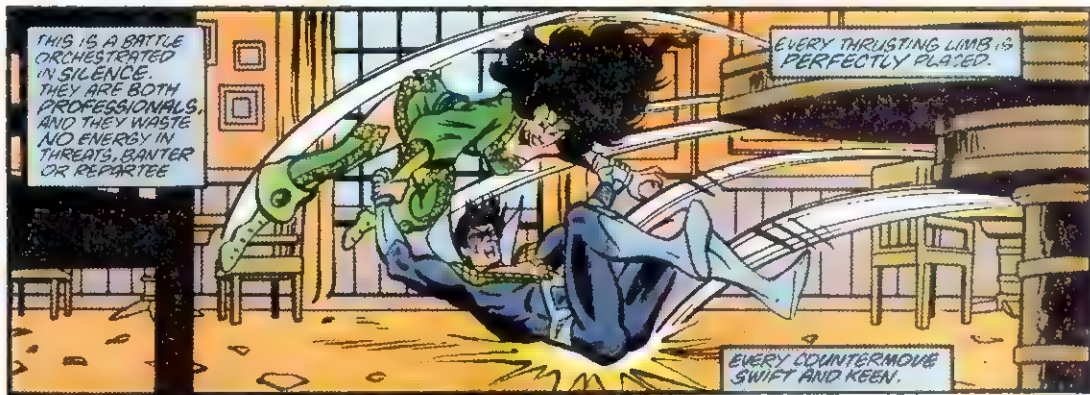
ARE YOU **NUTS?** WHEN THIS GETS OUT, I'LL HAVE MORE FOLLOWERS THAN EVER! I'M GRATEFUL FOR YOUR HELP, BUT I'D HAVE TO BE **CRAZY** TO DROP THIS NOW!



OH... THE **PRESS.** YES, I DO HAVE A STATEMENT...

Some learn from their experiences with the unknown... while others remain forever lost -- never realizing their plight. I know, for I **AM...** The Phantom Stranger.

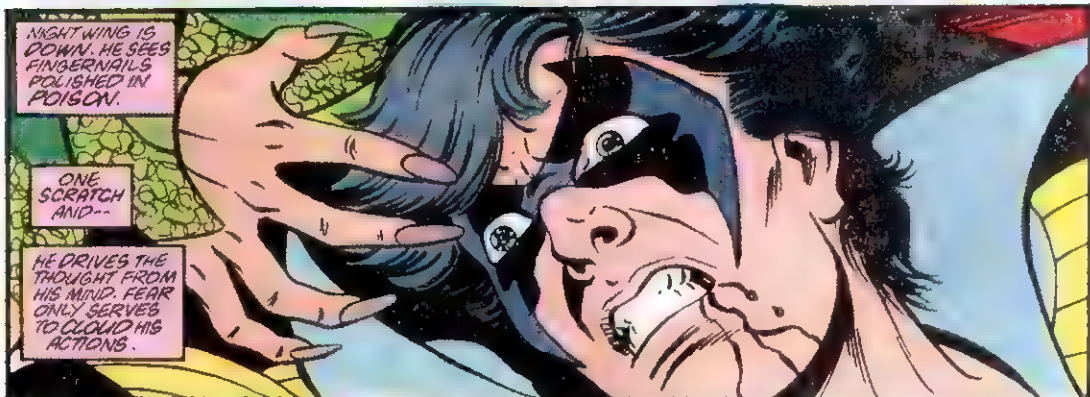




THIS IS A BATTLE ORCHESTRATED IN SILENCE. THEY ARE BOTH PROFESSIONALS, AND THEY WASTE NO ENERGY IN THREATS, BANTER OR REPARTEE.

EVERY THRUSTING LIMB IS PERFECTLY PLACED.

EVERY COUNTERMOVING SWIFT AND KEEN.



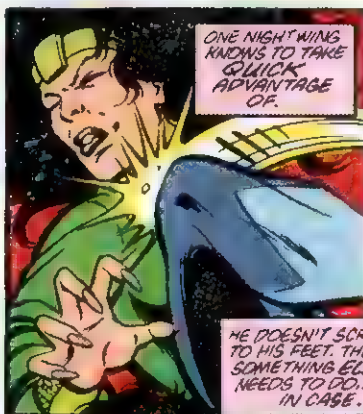
NIGHTWING IS DOWN. HE SEES FINGERNAILS POLISHED IN POISON.

ONE SCRATCH AND--

HE DRIVES THE THOUGHT FROM HIS MIND. FEAR ONLY SERVES TO CLOUD HIS ACTIONS.

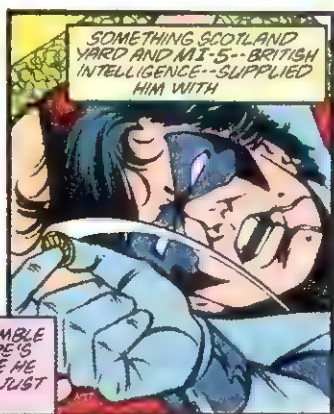


WHY DOES CSMESHIRE PAUSE? UNPROFESSIONAL A MISTAKE

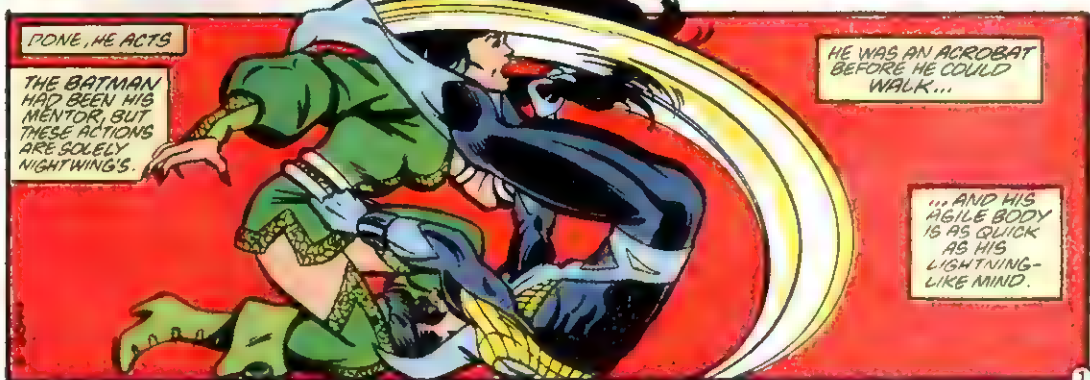


ONE NIGHTWING KNOWS TO TAKE QUICK ADVANTAGE OF.

HE DOESN'T SCRAMBLE TO HIS FEET. THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE HE NEEDS TO DO...JUST IN CASE.



SOMETHING SCOTLAND YARD AND MI-5--BRITISH INTELLIGENCE--SUPPLIED HIM WITH



PONE, HE ACTS

THE BATMAN HAD BEEN HIS MENTOR, BUT THESE ACTIONS ARE SOLELY NIGHTWING'S.

HE WAS AN ACROBAT BEFORE HE COULD WALK...

...AND HIS AGILE BODY IS AS QUICK AS HIS LIGHTNING-LIKE MIND.



# NIGHTWING

MARV WOLFMAN / CHUCK PATTON  
WRITER PENCILLER

TOM POSTON  
INKER

ALBERT DE GUZMAN / ADRIENNE ROY  
LETTERER COLORIST

BARBARA KESEL  
EDITOR

## CHAPTER 5

## MOTIVES

NIGHTWING  
KNOWS A  
PROLONGED  
BATTLE  
COULD ONLY  
END IN HIS  
DEATH. NO  
MATTER  
HOW GOOD  
HE IS...

...NO MATTER  
HOW FAST,  
CLEVER OR  
POWERFUL--

--ASIDE FROM  
HIS MIND AND  
BODY, HE IS  
WEAPONLESS.

CHESHIRE  
IS NOT.

BUT THERE  
IS MORE

SHE IS  
NOT HIS  
GOAL.  
HE SEES  
BEYOND  
HER.

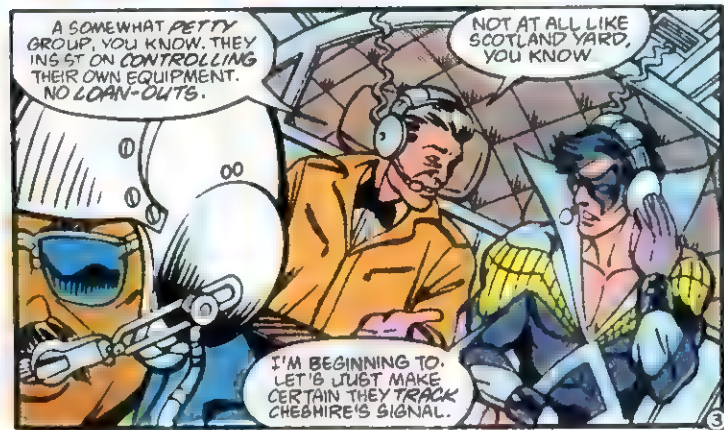
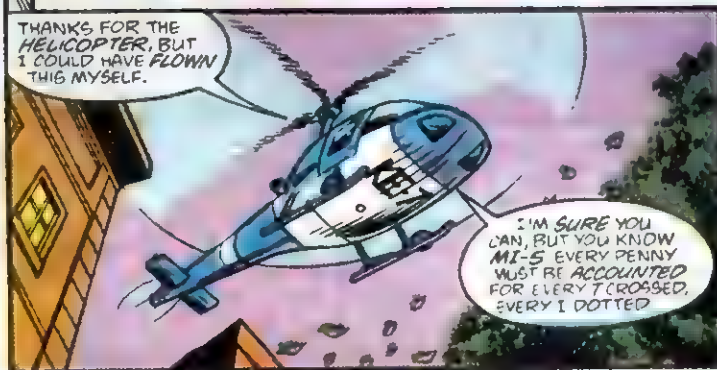
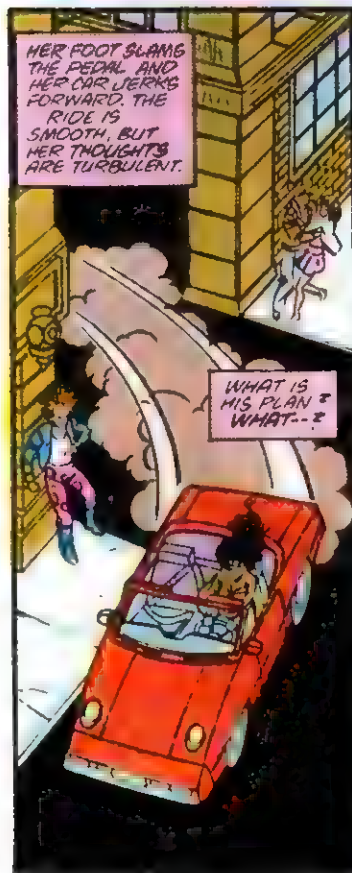
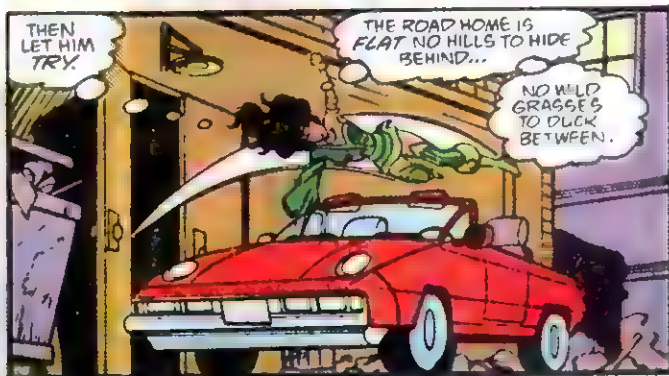
ROY HARPER,  
SPEEDY, IS  
SOMEWHERE  
OUT THERE,  
ENGAGED IN  
SOME MISSION  
EVEN NIGHTWING'S  
DEDUCTIVE MIND  
CANNOT FATHOM.

WHERE ARE  
YOU GOING,  
NIGHTWING?

I DIDN'T  
THINK YOU'D  
RUN FROM  
ME.

I NEVER  
THOUGHT  
YOU WERE A  
COWARD.





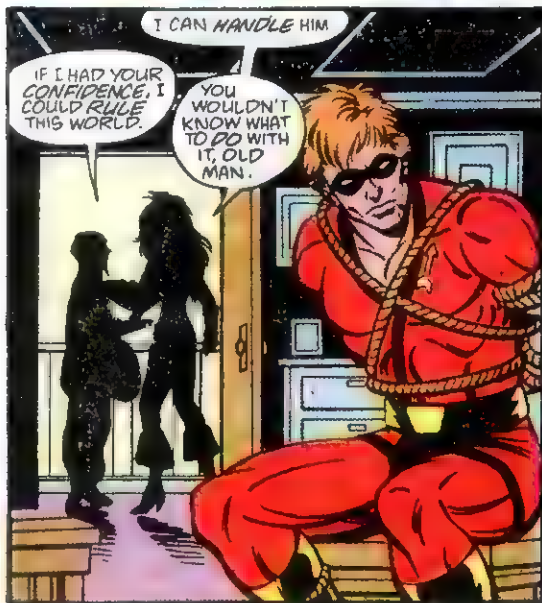




IT'S THE ONLY CHANCE WE  
HAVE OF FOLLOWING HER  
WITHOUT BEING SEEN.

YOU CAN DEAL  
WITH HIM WITH  
A CLEAR  
MIND?

I'M NOT SOME  
TEENAGE TWIT WHO  
THINKS MORE WITH  
HER HORMONES  
THAN SHE DOES  
HER MIND.



I CAN HANDLE HIM

IF I HAD YOUR  
CONFIDENCE, I  
COULD RULE  
THIS WORLD.

YOU  
WOULDN'T  
KNOW WHAT  
TO DO WITH  
IT, OLD  
MAN.



YOU LOOK WELL,  
ROY. HANDSOME AS  
EVER. BUT FAR MORE  
STUPID THAN I  
COULD HAVE  
KNOWN.

WHY  
DID YOU  
COME?

TO SEE MY  
DAUGHTER. IT'S  
BEEN A YEAR...  
TOMORROW'S  
HER BIRTHDAY...

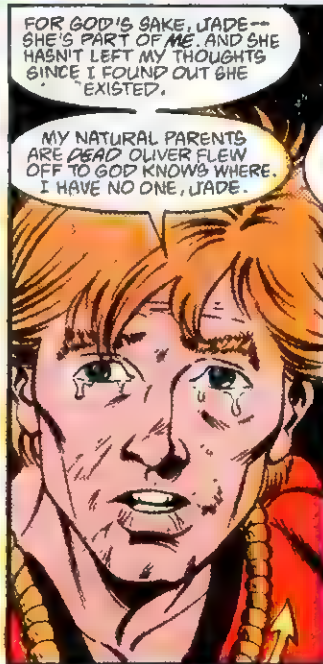


NO!

NEVER! I LET  
YOU DO THAT ONCE  
AND YOU CAN'T  
KNOW HOW I FELT  
AFTERWARD.

TOO MANY  
WOUNDS  
WERE  
OPENED  
UP, ROY.

YOU  
REPRESENT  
TOO MUCH  
WEAKNESS.



FOR GOD'S SAKE, JADE--  
SHE'S PART OF ME. AND SHE  
HASN'T LEFT MY THOUGHTS  
SINCE I FOUND OUT SHE  
EXISTED.

MY NATURAL PARENTS  
ARE DEAD OLIVER FLEW  
OFF TO GOD KNOWS WHERE.  
I HAVE NO ONE, JADE.

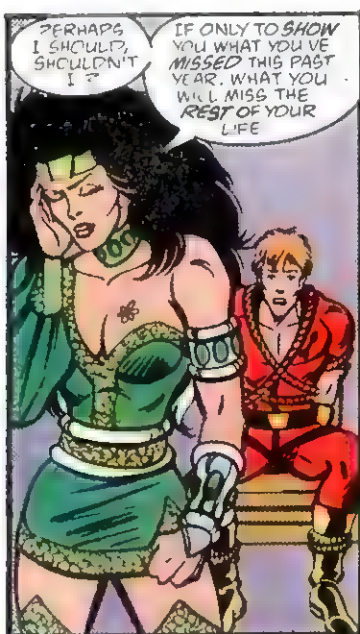


WHY DO YOU  
THINK I CAME  
ALL THIS WAY,  
JADE? I HAVE  
TO SEE HER.  
PLEASE...

SHE'S  
ALL I  
HAVE.

SH... SHE'S MY...  
MY DAUGHTER...  
PLEASE... PLEASE...  
LET ME SEE HER.





PERHAPS  
I SHOULD,  
SHOULDN'T  
I?

IF ONLY TO SHOW  
YOU WHAT YOU'VE  
MISSED THIS PAST  
YEAR. WHAT YOU  
WILL MISS THE  
REST OF YOUR  
LIFE



PERHAPS  
I SHOULD,  
BUT I  
WON'T!

I ACTUALLY  
FELL IN LOVE  
WITH YOU,  
HARPER. ME--  
ME!

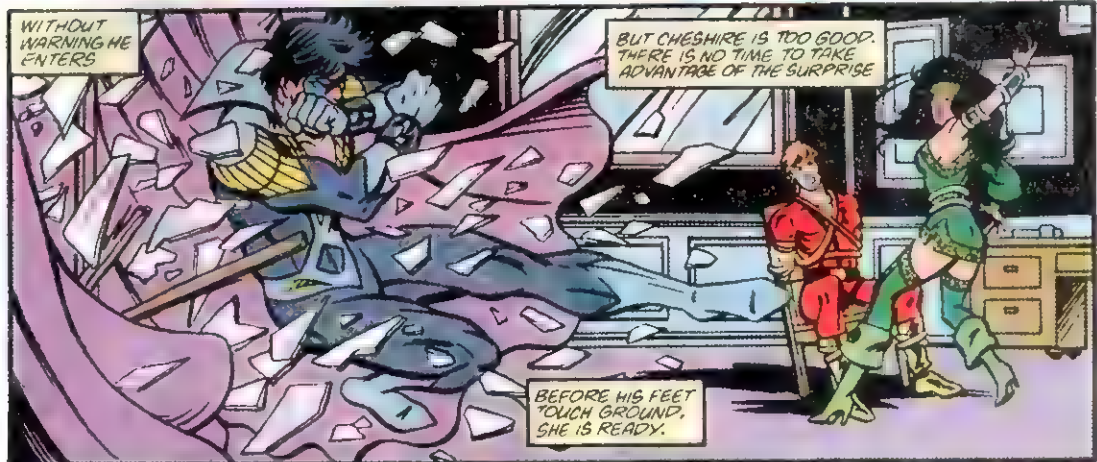
SHOW YOU YOUR DAUGHTER?  
NO--I'D RATHER LET YOUR  
HEART BREAK KNOWING SHE'S  
IN THE NEXT ROOM.



I'LL LET YOU KNOW  
WHEN SHE'S FEEDING.  
HARPER I'LL PLACE BE  
HER BATHING AND  
LAUGHING. AND CRYING

BUT  
YOU'LL  
NEVER  
SEE HER,  
HARPER--

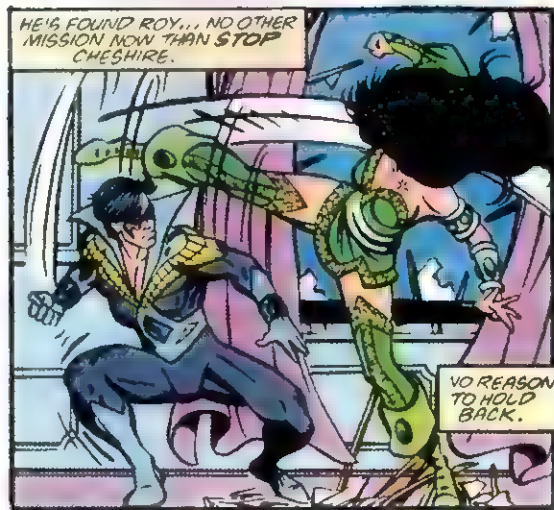
--NEVER!



WITHOUT  
WARNING HE  
ENTERS

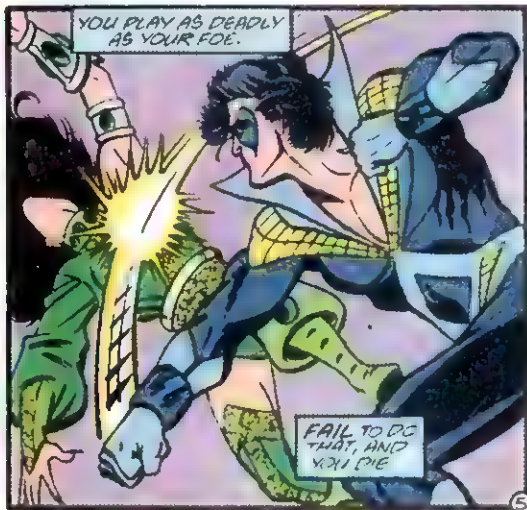
BUT CHESHIRE IS TOO GOOD.  
THERE IS NO TIME TO TAKE  
ADVANTAGE OF THE SURPRISE

BEFORE HIS FEET  
TOUCH GROUND,  
SHE IS READY.



HE'S FOUND ROY... NO OTHER  
MISSION NOW THAN STOP  
CHESHIRE.

NO REASON  
TO HOLD  
BACK.

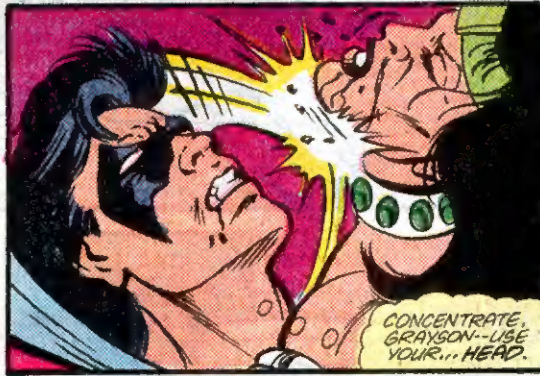
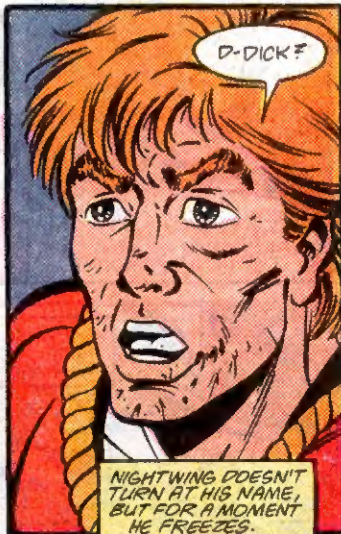
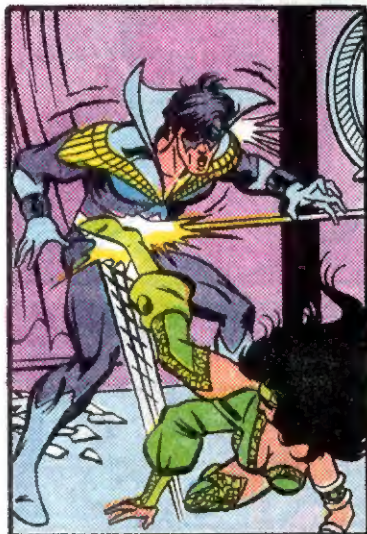


YOU PLAY AS DEADLY  
AS YOUR FOE.

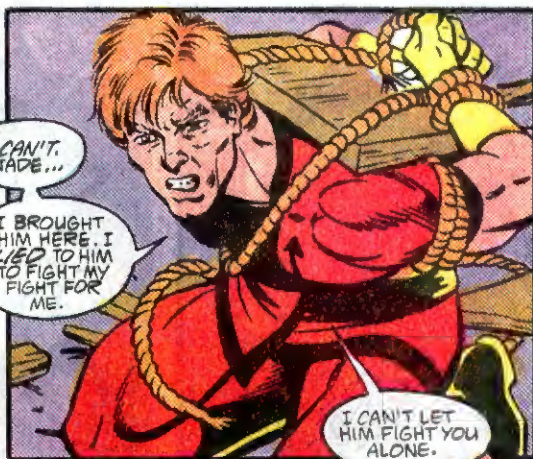
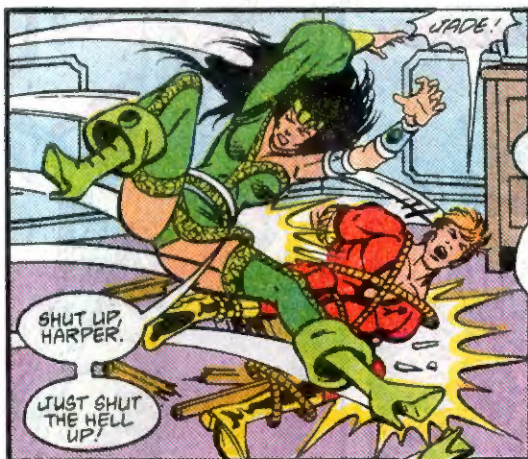
FAIL TO DO  
THAT, AND  
YOU DIE



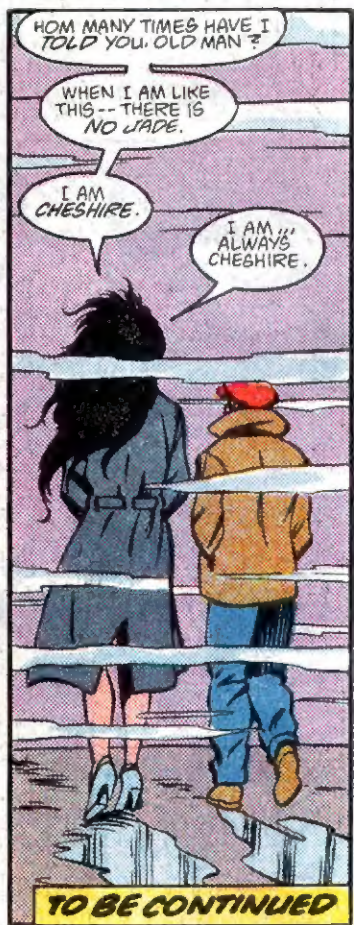
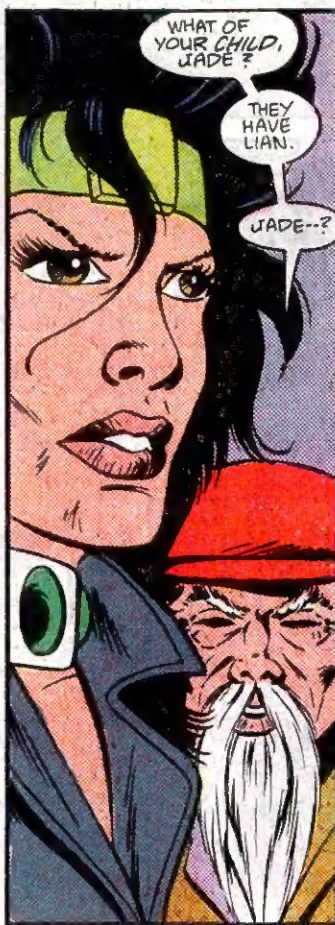
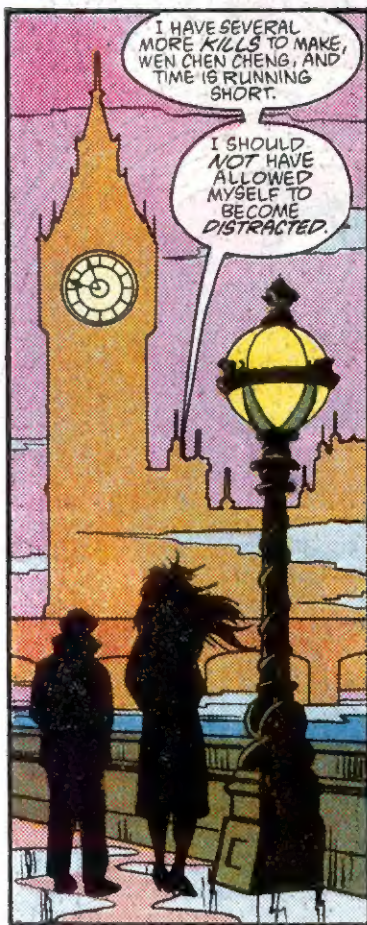
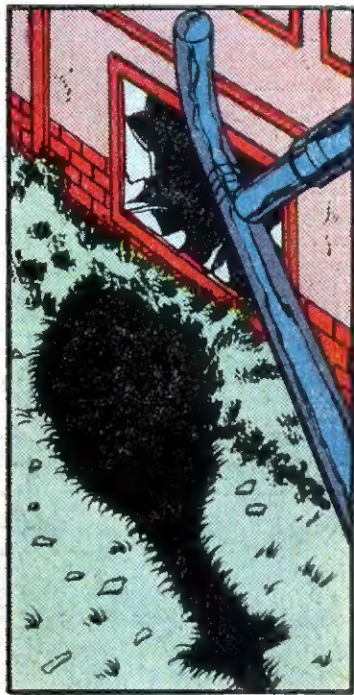
CHESHIRE IS A  
KILLER, AND  
THE FIGHT IS  
SAVAGE.













# SUPERMAN

Created by  
JOE SHUSTER

LAST ISSUE: SUPERMAN DISCOVERED THAT THE WOULD-BE ASSASSIN OF CHARLES CULPEPPER HAD BEEN KILLED BY REMOTE CONTROL-- THROUGH A RADIO TRANSCEIVER IMPLANTED IN HIS SKULL.

WHEN DOCTORS TRIED TO EXAMINE THE DEVICE, IT EXPLODED!

## "MISSING PERSON"

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